Making our Institutions and their Classrooms More Open and Equitable

Tonja Conerly, Ursula Pike, and Una Daly
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It can be hard to talk about racism in education but data shows that students of color drop out and fail to complete at higher rates than white students even from the same family income. Are you wondering how we can make classrooms, courses, and resources more anti-racist and equitable with OER and open educational practices aka “open pedagogy”? In this workshop, we’ll explore strategies for opening up your syllabus, finding diverse openly licensed images, and using open pedagogy to engage and empower students in their own learning. Please bring your syllabus.

The syllabus is one of the first impressions that a student receives from their instructor. Institutionally, it is a contract documenting policies and responsibilities. The language may be confusing and even intimidating to students who are new to college or returning after a gap in their education. Strategies for creating an inviting syllabus or even co-creating one with your students will be shared.

Open pedagogy describes teaching and learning practices that are enabled with the use of OER. While OER expands access to learning, open pedagogy empowers students to create openly licensed learning resources from their lived experiences and cultures. We’ll explore open pedagogy projects from multiple disciplines where students have produced and shared their unique learning experiences.

Learning Outcomes:

■ Evaluate your syllabus for how inclusive it is for non-traditional students.
■ Explore the use of diverse images to enhance student engagement
■ Understand how OER and Open Pedagogy support student voices and deeper learning.
Welcome

Ursula Pike, Associate Director

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Agenda

● The Why?
● Some Definitions
● Overview of breakout rooms
  ○ Syllabus
  ○ Diverse Images
  ○ Open Pedagogy Examples
● Breakout rooms
● Sharing our learning
The Why?

Higher education has had a long history of excluding and underserving students who are not white, male, or affluent … It isn’t enough to just believe that racial inequality is a problem; what policymakers, advocates, and citizens do about it matters most.

Hard Truths: Why only race-conscious policies can fix racism in higher education. Education Trust-West  https://edtrust.org/resource/hard-truths/
Equity-mindedness

“The term “Equity-Mindedness” refers to the perspective or mode of thinking exhibited by practitioners who call attention to patterns of inequity in student outcomes. These practitioners are willing to take personal and institutional responsibility for the success of their students and critically reassess their own practices.”

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
What does it mean to be anti-racist?

"The term 'antiracist' refers to people who are actively seeking not only to raise their consciousness about race and racism, but also to take action when they see racial power inequities in everyday life."

Anneliese A. Singh
What can open education make possible?

“Open education goes beyond a focus on resources and includes practices, policies, and research to create meaningful and inclusive educational experiences for learners.

… Access alone is not a guarantor of racial equity for learners. Instead, learners should be supported and encouraged as sensemakers and creators of their identities and their communities.”
Open Syllabus
PERT

P- Policy & Procedures (required, created by class)
E- Encouragement - (rubric for guidelines), auxiliary services, such as library and student resources - veterans, etc.
R- Responsibility - Faculty and Student/
  Personal and Social (multiculturalism)
T- Tone (positive) & Visual (inclusive graphics, videos -cc, font size)
Diverse Images

What do we mean by diverse images?

• Race and ethnicity
• Gender
• LGBTQ+
• Body Types
• Abilities
• Age
• Non-traditional
Diverse Images

Why is it important to diversify the images in educational resources?

• Representational Justice (Sarah Lambert)
• Knowledge
• Engagement
• Accurate reflection of our world
• Alt Text and correct attribution

Only 4.5% of textbook images in a American Academy of Dermatology study had dark skin.
"Professor Amivi Kafui Tele-Benissan teaches cell biology and biochemistry" by World Bank Photo Collection is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

"An Indigenous Two-Spirit person ties their shoelaces while sitting in a chair. They are dressed in all black and have braided hair, tattoos, and a prosthetic leg," by Disabled and Here/Chona Kasinger is licensed under CC BY 4.0.

"A non-binary femme using a makeup brush vertical" by the Gender Spectrum Collection is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 4.0.

"Designer" by Iconathon is licensed under Public Domain.

"Powwow 4" by Penn State is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0.
Where Can you Find Openly Licensed Diverse Images?

❖ CCCOER Equity & Openness: Looking for Images that Reflect Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - CCCOER.org
  ➢ Images of Empowerment: Free images of women’s lives and work, created by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and Getty Images; License: CC-BY-NC-4.0
  ➢ The Gender Spectrum Collection: Stock Photos Beyond the Binary

❖ Open Oregon: openoregon.org/open-images
  ➢ American Education: Images of Teachers and Students in Action
“Open education comes down to one word: accountability… YOU choose what YOU want to learn, and how YOU want to do it, and when YOU want to do it. Noticing a theme? This is your education, and for the first time, in a very long time, maybe ever, we have a say in what we want to learn.”

Jaime Marsh, Student, Keene State College

Adapted from Slide: Robin DeRosa CC-BY 4.0, Mar 5 2021, Imagining an Open Future for Open Oregon Educational Resources.
5 Permissions of OER

- **Revise**: Adapt and modify for your context
- **Remix**: Mix it with other material to make it better
- **Reuse**: Use it over and over, with no limitation
- **Redistribute**: Share it with students & colleagues (no limit)
- **Retain**: Keep a copy, forever

“5 R Permissions” by David Wiley
Open Pedagogy

Renewable Assignments

• Accessible
• Learner-centered
• Connected to community
• The 5 Rs of Open

California History (Whose History?)

Introduce the concept of traditional vs. non-traditional archives by having students engage directly with their family stories in the form of oral history and/or family historical documents, letters, photos.

Students help curate historical documents from their region (San Joaquin Valley) and create documentation of their own family stories through video, podcasts, PPT and share in an open repository.

Image: pixabay.com, Follow [nad_dyagileva on Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/nad_dyagileva)
Syllabus Breakout Room

Objectives: (using PERT and Pedagogies)

1. As a faculty member of a PWI, create a syllabus and incorporate multiculturalism

2. As a faculty member of HSI, create a syllabus reflecting the student body
Diverse Images
Breakout Room

Objectives:

1. Who would like to change their textbook?

2. What is your discipline and what images are you looking for?
Objectives:

1. Share examples of non-disposable assignments

2. What does this make possible for traditionally underrepresented students?
Choose your Breakout Room

- Open Syllabus
- Inclusive & Diverse Images
- OER & Open Pedagogy
Join the CCCOER Community

● Spring 2021 webinars
  https://www.cccoer.org/2021/01/25/2021-spring-webinar-series/

● Join our Community Email
  ○ https://www.cccoer.org/community-email/

● Read our EDI blog posts & Student OER Impact Stories
  ○ https://www.cccoer.org
Additional Opportunities to Go Deeper

- CCCOER’s Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Blog Series
- Equity by Design: Delivering on the Power and Promise of UDL
- Anti-racism and UDL Converge for Student Success
- Racial Equity Tools
- Center for Urban Education Equity Tools
- Open Pedagogy Notebook
- Peralta Online Equity Rubric
- OEGlobal Podcast on Montgomery College Open Anthropology
Thank you for joining us!

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