

OERup! Training

Module 1 / Getting to know OER and OEP

Open education, open resources, open practice; in this very first section of the course, we want to shed some light into the jungle of new terms and abbreviations. What do we mean, when we speak of 'open', 'free' or 'resources'? This module provides definitions of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practice (OEP) and gives insight into the background of the open education concept and its philosophy.

Contents

Introduction.....	2
1. Defining OER.....	3
Task 1	3
2. Defining OEP.....	4
Task 2	4
3. Motivation behind the OER movement	4
Task 3	5
4. OER History.....	5
Task 4	5
5. Conclusion	6
6. List of links:.....	6
7. Metadata	7

Introduction

Getting to know OER and OEP

Open education, open resources, open practice; in this very first section of the course, we want to shed some light into the jungle of new terms and abbreviations. What do we mean, when we speak of 'open', 'free' or 'resources'? This module provides definitions of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practice (OEP) and gives insight into the background of the open education concept and its philosophy.

Please watch the recording of our opening webinar (*minute 4:27*). Alastair Clark, an adult learning professional and active teacher, provides an expert insight into OER in adult education: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMTdQkkizE0>

module framework

CONTENT	Definition of terms in use, exploring their background
TARGET GROUP	Teachers, trainers, mentors, staff and management of adult education institutions, as well as consultants

1. Defining OER

What IS an OER?:

The term 'Open Educational Resources' (OER) describes any educational resources which have been made available for use under open licenses which mean that anyone can use, adapt and redistribute them. Educational resources are any material designed for teaching, learning and research used by educators, students and self-learners (including curriculum maps, course materials, textbooks, videos, multimedia applications, podcasts, etc.). OER may be available online, in print, on DVD or any other media.

What is NOT an OER:

Of course not any educational material that can be found on the web is an OER. Most resources on the internet are closed resources even if they are available for free. Materials that are under full copyright or which are not accompanied by a specific license allowing anyone to copy, adapt and share them are not Open Educational Resources. You can use these materials only within the fair use provisions or copyright exceptions in your country.

([source](#): "Open Educational Mythbusting", by Karolina Grodecka and Kamil Śliwowski)

Further popular definitions:

World OER Congress held at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 20 - 22 June 2012. Its declaration [calls on governments worldwide to openly license publicly funded educational materials](#). [Click!](#)

Definition of the Hewlett Foundation. [Click!](#)

Task 1

Read the proposed definitions of the following papers, and summarize for yourself the most important key points that mark the terms "open", "educational" and "resource" and share it with the others.

["Giving knowledge for free - The emergence of Open Educational Resources", Chapter 2, OECD, 2007 \[PDF\]](#)

["JISC Open educational resources OERs Guide", pages 3-5, OECD, 2007 \[PDF\]](#)

Possible solution

[OERup Glossary.pdf](#)

2. Defining OEP

What do we mean by Open Educational Practices?:

The pure existence of OER does not ensure the actual use of these resources in educational work. Therefore the term OEP (open educational practices) describe practices which support the (re)use and production of OER through institutional policies, promoting innovative pedagogical models as well as respect and empowerment learners as co-producers on their lifelong learning journey. Whereas OER focuses on content and resources, OEP represents the practice in which an educational method is used to create an educational environment in which OER are used or created as learning resources.

For a deeper insight and practical steps on the topic OEP go to module 5 and 6 of this training.

Task 2

Read pages 1-3 of the paper “From Open Educational Resources to Open Educational Practices” by Ulf-Daniel Ehlers, 2011 about the development from OER to OEP:

["From Open Educational Resources to Open Educational Practices", Ulf-Daniel Ehlers, 2011 \[PDF\]](#)

3. Motivation behind the OER movement

Open Education, where does this idea come from? What is the motivation behind it?:

Having talked about the definitions of the terms used, let’s dig a bit deeper and explore where this idea of open education comes from. Basically, the motivation behind open education really has three important angles:

Inherited from the open source philosophy **>quality unfolds, when people get the opportunity to continuously work and further develop things<**

"Open Source is a development method for software that harnesses the power of distributed peer review and transparency of process. The promise of open sources is better quality, higher reliability, more flexibility, lower costs, and an end to predatory vendor lock-in." ([source](#))

Hand in hand with the open access debate **>knowledge is a public good, and should therefore be accessible to the public<**

The William and Flora and Hewlett Foundation simply states: “At the heart of the movement toward Open Educational Resources is the simple and powerful idea that the world’s knowledge

is a public good and that technology in general and the Worldwide Web in particular provides an extraordinary opportunity for everyone to share, use, and reuse knowledge” (IJEDICT, 2009)

Inspired by innovative teaching and learning pedagogies (see module 5): **>concepts like individual learning environments, and flipped classroom call for open content<**

One opinion of a “budgie-loving bibliophile who teaches EdTech at Western Oregon University”: [Click!](#)

Task 3

Think about the benefits of OER for (A) learner, (B) OER originators, (C) other educators, (D) educational institutions, and other sectors (eg, employers, public bodies, etc.). Read what others have already listed and add your thoughts on our open virtual pinboard: bit.ly/OERbenefits

possible solution

["JISC Open educational resources \(OERs\) Guide", pages 3 to 5, JISC, 2014 \[PDF\]](#)

4. OER History

A bit of history:

The OER movement is not very old. For many, the release of free accessible teaching and learning materials by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 2001 marks its beginning. Just as with many other young ideas, Open Education lives through individual initiatives and events set-up by inspired pioneers. The needs analysis of the OERup! project provides first-hand information about these developments in its partner countries and regions.

In addition, the Open Knowledge Foundation Open Education Working Group created the Open EducationTimeline, a detailed listing of the most important events and milestones.

An overview on current projects and initiatives provides the [OER World Map](#).

Task 4

Share historic OER events, important projects, and initiatives that exist in your country or region on our open virtual pinboard: bit.ly/OERhistory

5. Conclusion

"After having completed this module, I know what the terms OER and OEP stand for and how its purposes are interlinked. Furthermore, I am aware of the roots of OER and the motivation behind its initiation."

Take this short quiz, to recall some information:

1. Resources that are not explicitly marked with an open license, are not OER
true!
2. The term "open" only refers to open to download.
true: 'open' only means, users can download and use the material for themselves.
false: resources need to be available to re-use, revise, re-mix, and re-distribute
3. As long as I give the permission to re-use and adapt material, I can claim a small fee for the first download.
true: 'open' does not mean 'free of charge'
false: the open license must not impose any compensation or monetary remuneration as condition
4. OER appear in any type or form
true: but mostly in digital form
false: in digital form only

6. List of links:

- Country reports on national and regional OER initiatives, http://www.poerup.info/key_outputs.html
- OER in adult education, taking stock and potential 2015 (focus Germany), <http://ebooks.open-educational-resources.de/whitep...>
- The innovation potential of OER/ how is OER innovative (slide 11-32), <http://de.slideshare.net/OECDDEDU/open-educational-resources-sharing-content-and-knowledge-differently-is-a-driver-of-innovation-in-education>
- OER Mythbusting, http://mythbusting.oerpolicy.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/OER_Mythbusting.pdf
- OECD 'Giving Knowledge for Free - The Emergence of OpenEducational Resources', (2007), <http://www.oecd.org/edu/ceri/38654317.pdf>

7. Metadata

Data Category	Information "Getting to know OER and OEP"
URL	http://www.oerup.eu/module-1/
OER	OER
License	Creative Commons-Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International
License Code	CC-BY-SA 4.0
Name	Module 1 – Getting to know OER and OEP
About	This module provides definitions of Open Educational Resources (OER) and Open Educational Practice (OEP), and gives insight into the background of the open education concept and its philosophy.
Keywords	Open Educational Resources; Open Educational Practices; Open Education; Adult Education; Adult Learning; Definitions
Publisher	OERup! Consortium
Author	Ines Kreitlein
Date Created	31.03.2016
Time Required	05:00:00
Educational Role	teacher
Educational Use	reading; activity; quiz
Interactivity Type	mixed
Resource Format	webpage
Data Type	HTML
Education Type	Adult Learning; Higher Education
Language	English; German; Italian, Spanish; Romanian
Country Code	Germany

Script Code	Latin
Access Mode	auditory; visual; textual

Data Category	Information „Opening Webinar“
URL	http://www.oerup.eu/module-1/webinaropening/
Alternate URL	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMTdQkkizE0
OER	OER
License	Creative Commons - Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International
License Code	CC-BY-SA 4.0
Copyright Holder (Optional)	OERup! Consortium
Name	OERup! Opening Webinar
About	This video provides information about content, course, and delivery of the OERup! Training as well as important first expert insight into the topic of open education from Alastair Clark, active teacher, researcher, consultant, and speaker
Keywords	OERup! Training Curriculum; Open Educational Resources; Open Educational Practices; Open Education; Adult Education; Adult Learning; Definitions
Publisher	OERup! Consortium
Host	YouTube
Author	Alastair Clark; Ines Kreitlein; Kevin Campbell-Wright
Date Created	21.10.2015
Time Required	00:55:32
Educational Role	Teacher
Educational Use	Presentation; Curriculum Plan
Interactivity Type	Expositive
Resource Format	Video (a resource intended for watching)

Data Type	HTML
Education Type	Adult Learning; Higher Education
Language	English, German, Italian, Spanish, Romanian
Country Code	Germany
Script Code	Latin
Access Mode	Auditory; Visual



This work by the OERup! project is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

This work has been funded with support from the European Commission. It reflects the views only of the author, and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

