GET STARTED WITH OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
ONLINE COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

This course provides participants with a working knowledge of Open Educational Resources (OER) and its implementation in PreK-12 settings. The course is designed to serve educators in various roles – classroom teachers, curriculum coaches, tech coaches, and school/district leaders – by providing the foundational knowledge for making instructional material selections in their schools.

In order to successfully adopt and adapt OER, educators need to understand different types of licensing, where to find high-quality resources, and how to evaluate instructional materials based on their needs. By taking this course, participants will gain exposure to examples of successful implementation and will be more prepared to implement OER in their school or district.

Course Structure

This 15-hour virtual course consists of six modules that build upon one another and culminate in a final portfolio. It comprises self-paced lessons, assignments, and discussions that may be completed over the course of a few days or several weeks. In addition to course materials, and ISTE U instructor will provide support and feedback based on each participant's needs and progress.

Each module includes a mix of readings, videos, activities, and applications. The final portfolio provides participants with a chance to curate assignments and artifacts from the course and to reflect on their learning journey.

Course Goals and Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Define and describe Open Educational Resources (OER)
- Describe the different types of licensing
- Curate existing OER
- Review and evaluate existing OER
- "Make the case" to district stakeholders to adopt and adapt appropriate OER.

Participant Profile

This course is designed for all PreK-12 education audiences seeking to integrate Open Educational Resources (OER) into their classrooms and school districts.

ISTE Standards and Competencies

The course is designed and developed around ISTE's Standards, with a strong emphasis on the ISTE Standards for Educators, and ISTE Standards for Education Leaders.

Module Descriptions

MODULE 1: OER BASICS

In this module, you will explore the foundations of Open Educational Resources (OER), learn why it matters in PreK-12, and identify the benefits and challenges of implementing OER.

MODULE 2: LET'S TALK LICENSING: PROPRIETARY, FREE, AND OPEN

In this module, you will discover the differences between the three types of most commonly used instructional materials. You will also be able to recognize copyright, fair use, and public domain when reviewing instructional materials.

MODULE 3: EXPLORING CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSES

In this module, you will explore the Creative Commons licenses, understand usage rights, and apply licenses to materials that you create.

MODULE 4: CURATING CONTENT: FINDING AND USING OER

In this module, you will start the curation process and dig into places that currently house OER. You will start with a curated list of repositories, perform your search, and then apply the flexibility of an open license by revising and remixing a learning resource.

MODULE 5: EVALUATING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

In this module, you will review various resources used for quality assurance of instructional materials. After learning more about the various rubrics, you will identify your quality criteria and revise and remix a rubric to use in your own evaluations.

MODULE 6: IDENTIFYING PHASES OF GOING OPEN

In this module, you will Increase your confidence in describing the phases that districts typically go through in an OER transition and prepare an artifact to communicate this process with various stakeholders.

Completion Criteria

To receive the certificate of completion, you must participate in all discussion fora, submit all assignments with a passing score, and turn in your final portfolio.

Disclaimers

This course is a production of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). This course contains examples and resource materials that are provided for participants' convenience and information. The inclusion of any material is not intended to endorse any views expressed, or products or services offered. These materials may contain the views and recommendations of various subject matter experts as well as hypertext links, and websites to information created and maintained by other public and private organizations. The opinions expressed in any of these materials do not necessarily reflect the positions or policies of ISTE. ISTE does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of any outside information included in these materials.

NOTE: A variety of applications are highlighted throughout this course. Prior to using any of them with students, it is imperative that participants check the account requirements for each application against their school/district student data privacy policy to insure the application complies with district policy. In addition, some applications' Terms of Service may require parental permission to be COPPA and FERPA compliant for students younger than 13 years of age.

Content in this course is subject to change at instructor's or ISTE's discretion.