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# Practicing What We Preach: Showcasing OER through the Creation of a Research Strategies Textbook

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## Showcasing OER through the Creation of a Research Strategies Textbook

### Rationale: Why Create an Open Access Textbook?

- Lack of current / existing research process OER within the profession.
- Freedom to tailor the text specifically to the institution.
- Capitalize on collective expertise across the Libraries' units.
- Supports consistency in instruction efforts across modalities.
- Free and equitable access to all students.
- Practice what we preach: OER as a powerful teaching tool.

**Our vision?** We wanted to capitalize on local expertise to create a free, user-friendly textbook about research strategies intended for an undergraduate audience at Western Washington University.

### “What is *The Research Process*?”

**What:** An OER textbook and accompanying instructor workbook.

**Authors:** Teaching and archival professionals within the Libraries.

**Primary Audience:** Lower division undergraduate students.

**Chapter Format:** For a consistent user experience, each chapter had an essay, a summary of importance, and works cited section.

**Instructor Workbook:** Each chapter had a corresponding assignment, included in *The Instructor's Workbook*.

**Intended Use:** To be used in credit courses, flipped classes, workshops, and more.

**Discovery Platform:** Hosted in the institutional repository.

**Timeline:** Fifteen months from call for authors to publication.

**Accessibility:** Accessible chapters available upon request.

### Project Overview

#### Pre-Publication

**Author Support:** Established checklists, timelines, and author support sessions.

**Style Guide:** Style guide with instructions for naming conventions, use of bullets, captions, and citations provided.

**Cover Art & Formatting:** Choices in font, cover art, and content display were deliberate and intended for a good user experience.

**Instructor Workbook:** Assignments, lesson plans, and instructional strategies were included in the workbook.

**Assessment:** Assessment rubrics were included in author packet.

#### Publication

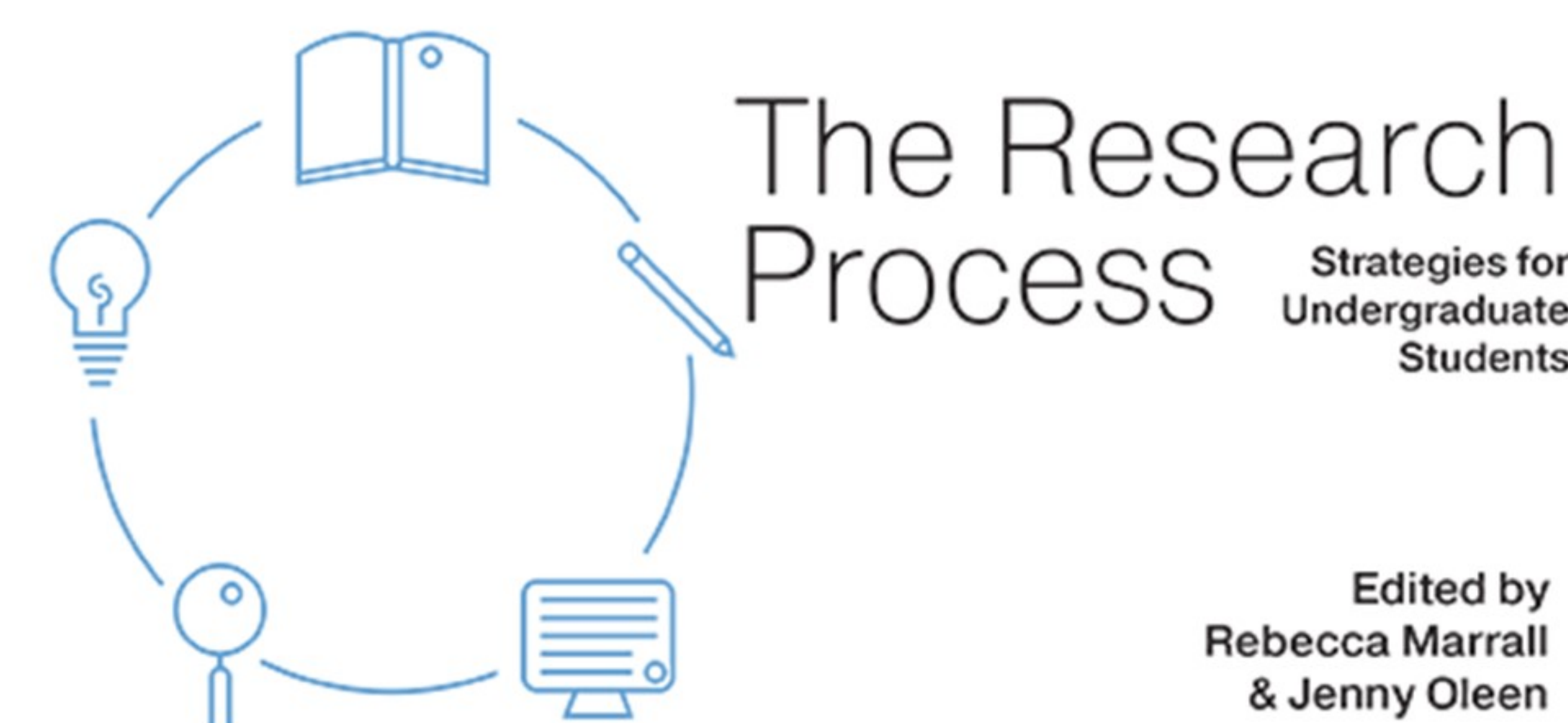
**Communication:** Developed and deployed marketing / outreach to raise awareness about the textbook.

**Editorial Details:** Formatted chapters, sought revisions, and finalized templates.

**Textbook Metadata:** Finalized the metadata for assignments, lesson plans, and instructional strategies were included in the workbook.

#### Post-Publication

**Share & Publicize:** Developed a toolkit of templates, timelines, and other author support materials for prospective editors and authors at other academic libraries. Distribute a press release for regional and national audiences.



[http://cedar.wvu.edu/research\\_process/](http://cedar.wvu.edu/research_process/)

### We did it. You can, too. (An Invitation)

You can have our templates, author support materials, and much more. Please visit this website (<http://bit.ly/OER-WWU>) or scan the QR code.

