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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

Project Overview

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.

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.

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.



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.

