



OPEN EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES

OPEN.USASK.CA

## For Students: What Does OPEN mean for Students?

### Copyright

A simple definition of copyright is that it is a bunch of rights in certain creative works (literary works, artistic works, musical works, computer programs, sound recordings, films and broadcasts) which can be used to stop others from copying the creative works without permission.

The rights are granted exclusively to the copyright owner to reproduce (copy, scan, print) and communicate (email, put on Internet) the material, and for some material, the right to perform or show the work to the public. Copyright owners can prevent others from reproducing or communicating their work without their permission. Only the copyright owner can licence or sell these rights to someone else. (National Copyright Unit)

**OER** (Open Educational Resources) are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open copyright license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge. (Based on Hewlett Foundation)

Open educational resources allow users to engage with '5R activities.'

### The 5 Rs of Open

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Retain

- Make and own a **copy**

Reuse

- **Use** in a wide range of ways

Revise

- **Adapt**, modify, and improve

Remix

- **Combine** two or more

Redistribute

- **Share** with others

**Open Pedagogy** takes OER as a starting point for rethinking the relationship between instructors, students and knowledge. If instructors and students are able to modify their learning materials, a shift can be made from students as consumers to producers of knowledge.

## Creative Commons

The table below shows what users have permission to do with materials that have a public domain designation or carry a Creative Commons license:

**MOST OPEN**



CC0

CC0 is a public domain license, it means that no attribution or credit for the original author is needed. You can adapt it any way you wish and even use it commercially.



BY

CC BY means that you must give credit (attribution) to the original author/creator, you can adapt and use commercially if you wish.



BY



SA

CC BY SA is CC BY plus "Share Alike" which means that you must attribute it and share any adaptations you make with the same license CC BY SA.



BY



ND

CC BY ND is CC BY plus "No Derivatives" which means that you can use it with attribution but you cannot adapt it.



BY



NC

CC BY NC is CC BY plus "Non-Commercial" which means that you can use it with attribution, you can adapt it, but you cannot sell it or profit from it in any way.



BY



NC



SA

CC BY NC SA is CC BY plus "Non-Commercial" plus "Share Alike" which means that you can use it with attribution, you can adapt it, but you cannot sell it or profit from it and you must share it again using CC BY NC SA.



BY



NC



ND

CC BY NC ND is CC BY plus "Non-Commercial" plus "No Derivatives" meaning you can use it with attribution, you cannot adapt it, and you cannot sell it or profit from it.

**LEAST OPEN**

**Z-Courses** are courses where students have zero or minimal (\$35 or less) direct costs for learning materials. Zero costs for materials may be due to the use of no textbook at all, an open textbook, resources from the Library, instructor notes, or other such materials in place of commercial textbooks, or as a result of no textbook being necessary for the course.

## Speaking With Instructors About Open

When speaking with your instructors about open, be respectful. Remember, switching from an existing textbook may require changes to course notes, assignments, quizzes, exams, slides, etc., which is time consuming. Be calm, not confrontational when you ask them if they've looked into open options, or resources available from the Library. Let them know how much your textbook for their course cost and if you were unable to afford to purchase it. You may wish to refer them to [open.usask.ca](https://open.usask.ca) for more information.



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