Using Technology and Open Educational Resources in Writ 102
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OER

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INTRO ............
Open educational resources (OER) are freely accessible, openly licensed documents and media that are useful for teaching, learning, and assessing as well as for research purposes

Why it Matters

Cost
Textbooks costs continue to rise, making college less affordable. Using OERs can save students money

Engagement
Students/Teachers are able to engage with more content than is found in traditional textbooks

Background 2015-2016 ............
Writ 100/101 NYT & Excelsior OWL Pilot used a combination of free and low-cost resources to save students money and increase engagement with an inquiry approach to writing

Student Response ............
Students enjoyed selecting their own topics, saving money, and they showed more engagement with current events. Students did not enjoy reading/working with resources online

New Pilot 2016-2017 ............
Writ 102 Literature using OER and free resources. Goal is to replace textbooks in the most expensive 102 theme

Course Design
Complete OER course adapted and integrated in Blackboard with the help of Lumen Learning

Goals
- Using free tools, like Scrible, students are able to highlight/annotate online texts
- Instructors are able to adapt, edit, and create OER to meet changing curriculum
- Ease of use/integration with Blackboard

Cost Savings

Results: OER and Technology Integration into Writ 102 at the University of Mississippi for 2016-2017

Students Saved ..................
Writ 102 Enrollment - 134 students
Total Cost Savings - $28,006.00

Source - 2-Degree Mississippi
http://oer.olemiss.edu/results/

Student Comments

I like the fact that all the textbooks in this class were free. I felt like that helped me alot.

Having all our textbooks replaced by OER made it easier for me to find material on Blackboard.

Scrible was helpful because it allowed you to write directly cut beside the highlighted portion.

The note taking isn’t the same as printing out a copy and annotating off to the side. I have always had to print out a copy of my poems in order to make proper notes. These highlighting tools just doesn’t compare to efficiency of a pen and paper.

Scrible and I did not get along at first, but after having grown used to the quirks, it functioned just as well as the other stuff did with OER.

Source: ODL Faculty Grant Showcase: Reading, Commenting, and Highlighting Tools:
http://elearning.olemiss.edu/showcase/grant-showcase/marc-watkins-harvardwrite-and-highlighting-tools/