



OPEN EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES

OPEN.USASK.CA

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

## The 5 Rs of Open

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Retain	Make and own a <b>copy</b>
Reuse	<b>Use</b> in a wide range of ways
Revise	<b>Adapt</b> , modify, and improve
Remix	<b>Combine</b> two or more
Redistribute	<b>Share</b> with others

**OER at USask** has expanded in the past four years. During the 2017-2018 academic year, instructors of more than two-dozen courses are using open textbooks and other OER in place of commercial textbooks, benefiting approximately 4,000 students. Some instructors are using "off-the-shelf" OER, while others are adapting resources or creating new resources to meet the specific needs of their students. This ability to make small modifications or major changes to a resource is a key benefit to the use of OER. In addition, since 2015, students at the U of S have saved approximately \$800,000 through instructor use of OER.

**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.

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### Less Permissions

### Why Might You Use OER:

You may decide to use open textbooks or other OER, or integrate open pedagogy into your courses for a variety of reasons including:

- The ability to customize learning materials to make them what you really need in your course
- The opportunity to allow you and students to engage in the 5Rs of open by creating, collaborating with others, and sharing your own work or existing OER that you're building upon
- The opportunity to increase access to learning materials because they are available freely, in a variety of formats, whenever you or students need them

### Where to Begin:

To learn more about open textbooks, other forms of OER, and open pedagogy, contact Heather M. Ross at the GMCTL ([heather.ross@usask.ca](mailto:heather.ross@usask.ca)) and arrange a meeting. She is available for individual meetings or to speak with departments.



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