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https://open.byu.edu/general_college_chemistry

Why OER?

I was concerned about my students' ability to access the text—both because of financial hardship and ease of navigation and reading. The remixed OER has allowed me to structure the text around our syllabus so that the course is more coherent. It has also saved my students thousands of dollars in textbook fees.

Open General Chemistry Remix

Project Summary

We recently remixed existing general chemistry OER (Open Stax, Libre Texts) to create a textbook structured around the days in the semester. Chapter 1 corresponds with the first day of class, Chapter 2 with the second day, etc. I also modified existing materials to create open-source lecture slides, participation worksheets, and after class practice problems to support the text. This has allowed the materials to be used by other faculty at my institution with relative ease. Students report appreciating the organization and having easy access to all course materials in one place.



In a prior study, we investigated whether a “soft adoption” of OER that allows students the choice to use a commercial or OER text would impact student performance. There was no difference in outcomes for students using OER by choice.

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Future OER Plans

We are currently building the book and ancillaries for the second semester of general chemistry.

Advice for Faculty

Enlist your TAs to help! Get your department chair on board and ask for what you need to do it well.