**OER Workshop Activity: Finding and Evaluating OER Resources**

With a good syllabus, you can begin searching for OER Resources. Below is an actual excerpt from the Syllabus of an *Introductory to Psychology* course. Read the course description and the main goal of the course. Using this information, do the activity below:

**Activity:** Explore some of the OER Repositories below and locate a free/ zero cost textbook that appears to support the course goal. This activity is designed as a cursory look at the potential, not actual, effectiveness of a textbook in relation to the learning outcomes. With LibGuides, you will have a place to post some likely “candidates” that deserve further review. If you have time left, look for a textbook which may support the learning outcomes of the course you will be teaching.

**OER Repositories:**

* **OpenStax (Rice University)** [**https://openstax.org/**](https://openstax.org/)
* **Open Textbook Library** [**https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/**](https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/)
* **Merlot Repository (Cal State)** [**https://www.merlot.org**](https://www.merlot.org)
* **Open Textbooks (Community College Consortium for OER)** [**https://www.oerconsortium.org/discipline-specific/**](https://www.oerconsortium.org/discipline-specific/)
* **OER Commons** [**https://www.oercommons.org/**](https://www.oercommons.org/)
* **SUNY Open Textbooks** [**https://textbooks.opensuny.org**](https://textbooks.opensuny.org)

**Excerpt from Course Syllabus**

**Course Name**: PSYC 100

**Description of Course**: An introduction to the major facts, principles, methods, and theories of psychology. Topics include the history of psychology, sensory and perceptual processes, learning and cognition, motivation and emotion, psychological development, clinical and abnormal psychology and biological, social, and personality determinants of behavior.

**Course Goal:** The primary learning goal is for students to develop a knowledge base in psychology. Students should leave the course with a comprehension of major concepts, theories, historical trends and empirical findings in the field of psychology.

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| Title of Book | Which OER Repository? | Comments |
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* Do the OER textbooks cover the **content** you'd like your students to learn in this course or module?
* As you collect more OERs and other resources, **save them** in a central location (LibGuides, for example). Take note of how you envision using them. Align these resources with the learning objectives and weekly lessons on your syllabus in order to identify gaps.
* What other considerations should you consider before adopting a textbook? See OER Selection Rubric for other considerations: <https://www.achieve.org/files/AchieveOERRubrics.pdf>