OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
THE BASICS

What are OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES?

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Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching and learning materials that you may freely use and reuse, without charge. That means they have been authored or created by an individual or organization that chooses to retain few, if any, ownership rights. For some of these resources, that means you can download the resource and share it with colleagues and students. For others, it may be that you can download a resource, edit it in some way, and then re-post it as a remixed work. OER often have a Creative Commons or GNU license that state specifically how the material may be used, reused, adapted, and shared.

- OER COMMONS

What are OPEN LICENSES and why are they important to OER?

In order to facilitate robust and engaging learning experiences, educators and students rely upon the ability to freely exchange ideas and educational content. But that's not always easy to do because most publishers and authors of educational materials explicitly restrict your ability to copy, share, and modify these resources. Open Educational Resources, on the other hand, clearly state how the author wants you to use them and gives you the right to freely copy, modify, adapt, and build upon them for your desired use.

Learn more about Open Licences at Creative Commons: http://www.creativecommons.org

What are the potential BENEFITS of both CREATING and USING OER ?

- Improving student performance and satisfaction.

- Increasing access to educational materials for a wider range of learners, predominantly those underserved by traditional educational opportunities.

- Encouraging educators to engage in critical reflection of educational resources.

- Helping students, districts, and educational institutions save money.

- Attracting informal learners.

- Serving as a gateway from informal learning to formal educational programs.

What are EXAMPLES OF OER

- Full university courses, which might include course readings, audio or video recorded lectures, assignments, problem sets, examples of exemplary student work, and even lecture notes.

- Modules or other interactive learning activities that provide insight and analysis on a particular subject, problem, question, or concept.

- Complete peer-reviewed electronic textbooks.

- Elementary school, high school (K-12), community college, and other professional programs' lesson plans, worksheets, and activities that align with state or federal standards.

- Software and other tools that support the creation, delivery, use, and improvement of open learning content, including searching and organization of content, content and learning management systems, content development tools, and on-line learning communities.

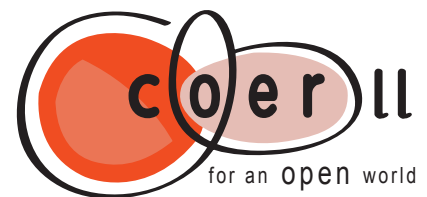# SOURCES for Language Learning OER

Where to FIND OER

- Creative Commons Search:
  http://search.creativecommons.org/

- Curriki:
  http://www.curriki.org/

- MERLOT World Languages Portal:
  http://worldlanguages.merlot.org/

- OER Commons:
  http://www.oercommons.org/

- Languages Open Resources Online (LORO):
  http://loro.open.ac.uk/

- Language Resource Centers (LRCs):
  http://nflrc.org/

Where to BUILD AND REMIX OER

- OER Commons Open Author:
  http://www.oercommons.org/contribute/

- OER Glue
  http://www.oerglue.com/

- WikiEducator
  http://wikieducator.org/

- Open Tapestry
  https://www.opentapestry.com/

- YouTube Video Editor
  http://www.youtube.com/editor

- TedEd
  http://ed.ted.com

Other MATERIALS on the USE, CREATION, and PRINCIPLES of OER

- Educause: 7 Things You should know about OER:
  http://goo.gl/pyPrLy

- Open Michigan: Finding and Creating Open Content
  http://goo.gl/KCNELB

- Open Michigan: OER: Benefits for Faculty and Students
  http://goo.gl/YRaEMX

- The Open University: Creating OER
  http://bit.ly/1frPxqU

- UNESCO: OER – The Way Forward
  http://goo.gl/uj1wUX

- Hewlett Foundation: OER: Breaking the Lockbox on Education
  http://goo.gl/owirVi

- Hewlett Foundation: The Open Education Resources Ecosystem
  http://goo.gl/6BIfhM

- Educause: 7 Things you should know about Open Textbook Publishing
  http://goo.gl/IGvdKB

- COERLL: How to Search for Openly Licensed Educational Resources
  http://goo.gl/7AdQll

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http://www.coerll.utexas.edu/coerll/