

Westchester Community College Open Access Policy

Westchester Community College acknowledges the use of open educational resources (OERs) as a solution to the escalating cost of higher education and encourages implementation across the institution, thereby affording students sustainable options to highly priced textbooks. In addition to greatly reduced costs, further advantages to open educational resources include equitable access and flexible adaptation of use and revision by others as permitted via Creative Commons licensing. To encourage open access progress and respond to SUNY's vision of open access learning environments, Westchester Community College permits faculty and staff to assign Creative Commons licensing to the academic materials they develop including but not limited to textbooks, lecture notes, and websites. Faculty are encouraged to identify, develop, and adopt, wherever possible, the use of open educational resources as an integral part of the Westchester Community College teaching and learning mission.