We understand this is a long document. We are using this as a tool to give you additional information about the charge from the state, Open Text activities, and reference information you can use as background to prepare for our working meeting. This information will be found in Sections 1, 2, and 5.

We will be collaborating as a group during our January Academic Convocation on Sections 3 and 4. Please be ready to join us with your ideas and suggestions to help craft this plan.

KP and BP
Section 1 - Background Information/Law

Dear MCCC,

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE: (meaning, read this section fully 😊)

This plan is being crafted with the dual goal of:

--Responding to the state charge of “open text expansion” as a means of student cost savings while still maintaining the use of high quality materials.

--Ensuring academic freedom for faculty, as experts in their field, who bear the responsibility of selecting the materials best suited for their programs and courses. (This includes continuing to use publisher-based digital resources if it is what is best for their courses. It also assumes an understanding that not all disciplines may be able to find quality, vetted and sustainable open ed materials for their courses at this time.)

Following is the charge letter for MCCC and a copy of the actual law. Institutions of higher ed in NJ must create a plan expanding the use of open textbooks and digital learning materials. The plan we are drafting, which will be shared with key groups/faculty/staff/admin, several times, addresses this act. Issues/goals which do not specifically answer this charge may not appear in this year’s plan, and may be wait-listed for a future updated version, in order to meet the college’s quick-turnaround deadline.

As noted in the legislation, faculty are the consulting body for this plan. However, this group will record ALL feedback even if not added to this very specific document at this time. We anticipate this plan will improve and evolve over the years as MCCC develops an adequate, sustainable support system for open text material expansion, and the selection of online resources increase in both quantity and quality.

To meet the deadline, we will do our best to create a plan now.
To fulfill our student/faculty/staff needs as an institution, the plan will change as we move forward.

This document, a 10th draft is being distributed to MCCC key groups/stakeholders in Fall 2019 for rolling feedback/participation, and will return for one last look/working group during faculty convocation in January 2020 before submission to the FCTL, CGC and PLT, (BOT if needed) for final approval in order to make the aggressive statewide deadline.

We look forward to working with you!
Kathi Paluscio, Betty Peterson, and Pam Price

THE CHARGE: Charge Letter From State of NJ
(Absolute Deadline to State by May 1)

To: Presidents and Chief Academic Officers, New Jersey Institutions of Higher Education
From: Eric Taylor, Esq., Director, Office of Licensure
RE: Institutional plans for the use of open textbooks and digital learning materials
Date: July 12, 2019

Kindly be advised that on May 2, 2019 Governor Murphy approved P.L.2019, c.77 (C.18A:3B-81 et seq.), which requires each institution of higher education in New Jersey to submit a plan for review to the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) by May 1, 2020 to expand the use of open textbooks and commercial digital learning materials in order to achieve savings for students enrolled in the institution. The text of the approved act is attached for your review.

In order to assist institutions with the development and submission of the required plan, OSHE anticipates providing additional guidance to institutions no later than the fall of 2019. In the interim, our office recommends that each institution:

1. Take an inventory of current open textbook and commercial digital learning materials usage at the institution; and

2. Identify opportunities for near-term expansion of the usage of open textbook and commercial digital learning materials usage at the institution.

Should you have any questions in regard to this memorandum or in regard to P.L.2019, c.77, please contact me at (609) 984-3738 or eric.taylor@oshe.nj.gov.
THE ACTUAL LAW:

PL 2019, c.077 (S768 1R) - NJ Legislature - AN ACT Concerning College Textbooks and Supplemecting Chapter 3B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. As used in this act:
   "Open educational resource" means an educational resource that is licensed under an open license and made freely available online to the public.
   "Open license" means a world-wide, royalty-free, non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable copyright license granting the public permission to access, reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display, adapt, distribute, and otherwise use the work and adaptations of the work for any purpose, conditioned only on the requirement that attribution be given to authors as designated.
   "Open textbook" means an open educational resource or set of open educational resources that either is a textbook or can be used in place of a textbook for a postsecondary course at an institution of higher education.

2. a. Within [180 days] one year of the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), an institution of higher education, after consultation with faculty members at the institution, shall submit a plan to the Secretary of Higher Education to expand the use of open textbooks and commercial digital learning materials in order to achieve savings for students enrolled in the institution. The plan may include strategies employed by the institution during the last academic year.
   b. The secretary shall review the plan submitted by an institution to ensure that the plan has the potential to:
      (1) achieve the highest level of savings for students through the sustainable expanded use of open textbooks in courses offered by the institution;
      (2) produce the highest quality open textbooks that can be most easily utilized and adapted by faculty members at the institution, and correspond to the highest enrollment courses at the institution;
      (3) ensure that the full and complete digital content of each open textbook created or adapted in accordance with the plan is made available to students enrolled in the institution:
         (a) on the institution's college bookstore website in an easily accessible location; and
         (b) in a machine readable, digital format that a student can download;
      (4) ensure that the institution is making a good faith effort to provide open textbooks to students; and
      (5) provide for the implementation of programs which reduce the cost of commercial digital learning materials pursuant to 34 C.F.R. s.668.164(c)(2).

3. The Secretary of Higher Education shall submit a report by July 1 of each academic year to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), that provides information on which institutions of higher education are offering open textbooks.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.
Section 2 - Additional Background Information for MCCC

Relevant MCCC Activities, Groups, Docs, OMBs, Strategic Plan already in place:

- **OMB 430: Selection of Textbooks & Related Educational Materials**
- **OMB 380: Code of Ethics for College Officers and Employees**
- **Strategic Plan 2016-2021, excerpt dated May 2016:**

As an effective college, MCCC will also pay attention to technological trends. Online course offerings, credit for work experience, and open source course materials are growing in student demand. 5.5 million U.S. students took at least one online course in the Fall of 2012; 2.6 million enrolled in fully online programs. Eighty-seven percent of Americans surveyed agree that students should earn credits for knowledge and skills acquired outside of the classroom and 75% of Americans surveyed indicate they would go to college if they could receive credit for what they already know. Free open source educational materials are predicted to be an important source for instructional resources in five years. (Appendix E: MCCC’s Environmental Scan) From Page 11 in support of Goal #3
The MCCC OERd (Open Ed Development Group)

This group, comprised of faculty membership across all divisions started an Open Text initiative that lasted for 2 years through 2018. Their end of the year report and recommendations to Administration were delivered through both live presentation & written form to the college, and PLT. It included:

- Identification of Barriers Specific to MCCC: Tech-Shock/Support Issues, Bundle Reliance, Assessment, Training & more.
- Identification Barriers well-known in the Open Text Community: Vetting, Meeting Course Goals, Faculty Time Investment, Sustainability, Licensing Issues.
- Specific Data-Driven and National OER Community Recommendations for the College Administration.
- Stages of the process & goals for the following year.

During their tenure, the OERd was proud to have accomplished the following:

- Significant increase in fac/staff community understanding the terminology of Open text/OER.
- Library Services dedicating one digital librarian to the OER cause.
- Multiple section courses going Open Text.
- Several new disciplines reaching out to discuss exploring resources (early stages).
- Design of a print JUMPSTART page for those curious, but nervous about OER.
- Custom MCCC Fac Web Page to Understand/Explore Open Text in Office 365- Step-by-step OER exploration and adoption.
- Motivational presentations/OER films: 550 unique views), which have received positive feedback and raised interest.
- Two committee interest meetings, three live OER department presentations, and over a dozen smaller meetings with individual faculty, one with library staff, and one with each of the three division deans.
- 44 responses to a customized MCCC OER FT Faculty Survey from which the 2018-2019 OER activities will be drawn up.

- OERd Faculty Web Page Includes:
  - VIDEO: Creative Commons: What is OER?
  - PAGE: Digital Jumpstart Page
  - LINK: Barriers to Adoption Article, BC Campus
  - PAGE: Myths and Misconceptions
  - LINKS/PAGE to Creative Commons Categories on Types
  - LINKS: OpenStax, Creative Commons, Free Use Collections, Community College Consortium for OER, College Open Textbooks Org, Faculty Select library databases
  - Videos: Understanding and Using Licenses, Proper Use & Attribution
  - STUDENT ORIG. VIDEO: Y’OER YouTube

Have You Seen the Faculty-Designed MCCC Open Text Site Yet?

Have You Seen the Faculty OERd End of the Year report 2018?
NJ VALE Open Text/OER Survey (LINK)
Results from the NJ VALE research conducted this past summer when it sent surveys to all 55 college and university library directors. There were 33 responses from both the 2-year and 4-year sector.

NJ VALE Faculty Survey 2019- Vale & Open Text OER Findings

Data from Fall 2019 & 2018 MCCC Faculty Open Text/OER Surveys
Faculty OER Survey 2019
Faculty OER Survey 2017-18
Current Open Textbook Status at MCCC: *Still a work in progress*

Please add to our list if your department OpenText/Affordability endeavors are not here, or, contact Betty Peterson/Kathi Paluscio directly to have your info recorded.

**KEEP IN MIND THESE CURRENT STATEWIDE DEFINITIONS:**

"Open educational resource" means an educational resource that is licensed under an open license and made freely available online to the public.

"Open license" means a world-wide, royalty-free, non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable copyright license granting the public permission to access, reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display, adapt, distribute, and otherwise use the work and adaptations of the work for any purpose, conditioned only on the requirement that attribution be given to authors as designated.

"Open textbook" means an open educational resource or set of open educational resources that either is a textbook or can be used in place of a textbook for a postsecondary course at an institution of higher education.

(still tracking) *Did we miss you? Like to add to this list? See an error?*

Contact Kathi: Paluscik@mccc.edu or Betty: petersob@mccc.edu

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<th>Course Number/Title</th>
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<td>$0 (print fee covered in dept)</td>
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<td>$262 (Text &amp; Lab Manual)</td>
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Section 3- Mercer's Open Textbook Expansion Plan

Vision and Barriers

***Please Read First, Ok? 😊

This section, our proposal for open text expansion, is being distributed to MCCC key groups/stakeholders in Fall 2019, and will return for one last look/working group during faculty convocation in January 2020 before submission to the FCTL, CGC and PLT, (BOT if needed) for final approval in order to make the statewide deadline.

The state explicitly identifies faculty as the primary consulting body for this endeavor, and so we are asking you to please assist us in developing two areas of this working document.

First, identify barriers which stand in your way. Second, contribute the action steps which will support our goals.

At the end of the feedback process, we will consolidate all of the information given to list action steps under each goal.

Vision  IF YOU WISH TO REWORD THIS VISION, PLEASE CONSIDER DOING SO PRIOR TO CONVOCATION. WE ARE NOT PLANNING ON SPENDING OUR TIME TOGETHER ON THIS TASK.

An institution-wide cultural shift in focus to keep Open Textbook/Digital Learning Strategies, which lower student cost, at the forefront of best practices, while maintaining/utilizing high quality teaching & learning materials in an environment which protects academic freedom.
**Barriers** **PLEASE ADD TO/REVISE THIS SECTION**

(What stands in the way of addressing the vision? implementing a solution? Any additions or revised wording is helpful.)

- Lack of funding or expertise to provide the kind of support faculty need to transition.
- Lack of understanding of terminology and trends across the board over faculty/staff and administration
- Uneven availability of high quality ready-to-use open textbooks across all disciplines
- Perceptions that Open Text material are low quality
- Perceptions that all Open Text material available for use is peer-reviewed/or of adequate quality
- Recent implosion of a pre-OER Task Force. Morale is low.
- Administration/Faculty/Staff -organized/led-institutional buy-in
- Various groups working at same time on related projects
- **Barrier:**
- **Barrier:**
- **Barrier:**
- **Barrier:**
Section 4 – Our Proposal for Open Text Expansion: Goals and Actions

IMPORTANT: Please read “background information” at the beginning of this packet before working on this section!

MCCC Goals and Actions for the Open Textbook Proposal:

As you work, keep in mind these statewide definitions: (Exactly, it means we can’t change them. So there is no need to discuss they should be different.)

"Open educational resource" means an educational resource that is licensed under an open license and made freely available online to the public.

"Open license" means a world-wide, royalty-free, non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable copyright license granting the public permission to access, reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display, adapt, distribute, and otherwise use the work and adaptations of the work for any purpose, conditioned only on the requirement that attribution be given to authors as designated.

"Open textbook" means an open educational resource or set of open educational resources that either is a textbook or can be used in place of a textbook for a postsecondary course at an institution of higher education.

**PLEASE ADD TO/REVISE THIS SECTION**

**We want and need input from everyone.**

We Need to Add Action Steps---Please add, reword. If you do not have enough room, you can use extra paper, or write on back (so long as you remember to give it to us😊) Adjunct faculty, Staff and Administration are also invited to share action steps and barriers two ways. First via email to palusck@mccc.edu or petersob@mccc.edu by January 9th to be incorporated into the current plan. Or second, if you have the availability and interest, you should plan to join us for the working session at our Academic Affairs Convocation exact time and location to be announced.

For any input given beyond Convocation, we will record the feedback for consideration as the next version of the plan is drafted in 2021.

Specifically, for Adjunct Faculty: Adjunct leadership has been contacted, and will be then contacting adjuncts for their input. We are particularly interested in hearing from anyone who has previously incorporated any textbook cost reduction in the section they teach.
For each of the following goals, proposed action steps need to be added by the faculty and additional members of the college community. Some goals may already have steps listed. Please expand as many as you feel are needed for each goal.

**Goal 1: Develop Methodologies for Framing OER/Textbook Cost Reduction**
From a content perspective, open textbooks are free. However, there are procurement, faculty/staff time investment and cyclical maintenance issues to resolve as we begin to shift cost from our students to the college. We will develop a snapshot/cost benefit analysis for MCCC and develop a methodology or framework to track time and resources so we can accurately calculate ongoing adjustments.

**Proposed Action Step:**

**Proposed Action Step:**

**Proposed Action Step:**

**Goal 2: Set Reasonable Academic Incremental Steps Towards Open Textbook Plan**
Within individual departments/divisions, create reasonable, incremental steps towards fulfilling the state’s newly passed PL 2019, c.077 (S768 1R, utilizing open textbooks and digital learning materials which will result in cost savings for our students.

**Proposed Action Step:** All postsecondary institutions are required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Some Open Text content is ADA compliant and some is not. We plan to ensure accessibility for all students.

**Proposed Action Step:**

**Proposed Action Step:**

**Goal 3: Support for an Instructional Cultural Shift**
Develop incentives and support, as outlined in the strategic plan, for those faculty who are engaged in the process of exploring, designing and utilizing open textbooks.

**Proposed Action Step:** The college will seek external funding from federal and state sources working to increase OER and textbook affordability efforts.

**Proposed Action Step:**

**Proposed Action Step:**
**Goal 4: Evaluate and Utilize High Quality Open Instructional Materials**

*Proposed Action Step:* The college’s membership in the Open Textbook Network (OTN) is one step in joining a national effort to build such a network and resource with contributions coming from over 900+ colleges and universities every day. Using the OTN best practices as a guide, we will develop a framework or rubric to guide the use and eventual creation of quality of Open Textbooks and Digital Learning Materials at MCCC.

*Proposed Action Step:* Utilize rubrics/online evaluation tools, as developed in collaboration with leaders from the OER community. to evaluate the quality of instructional resources.

*Proposed Action Step:*

*Proposed Action Step:*

**Goal 5: Develop Ongoing Instructional Development & Appropriate Technological Support**

*Develop a means for continued instructional development, information, and technical support for an open textbook initiative at MCCC.*

*Proposed Action Step:* Establish a standing FCTL sub-committee/or other college governance committee to provide leadership as well as dedicated space to support collaboration between faculty and staff who participate in the Open Textbook process. The membership of the committee will reflect the diversity of MCCC faculty and variety of disciplines offered at the college.

*Proposed Action Step:* Develop systems of centrally located, storage and retrieval, clear policies for access, and guidelines on permissible file types for curators of OER/Open Textbooks.

*Proposed Action Step:* Review impact on college bookstore contract and learning management partnerships currently in place.

*Proposed Action Step:* Acquire software that supports the creation of Open Textbook or low-cost teaching and learning resources.

*Proposed Action Step:*

*Proposed Action Step:*
Goal 6: Maintain Professional Memberships with the Open Textbook/OER Community
Maintain memberships and/or enter into other collaborative relationships, to share best practices with affinity groups in the Open Textbook effort across the region, state and nation.

Proposed Action Step:
The college will include annual dues for the Open Textbook Network (OTN), Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources (CCCOER) in the institutional budget.

Proposed Action Step:

Proposed Action Step:

Goal 7: Analyze and Create Intellectual Property Rights Policies
Create and/or revise intellectual property rights and copyright policies to be in line with those established at other institutions, as recommended by Open Textbook curatorial organizations, or designated MCCC faculty governance committee to minimize legal action.

Proposed Action Step:

Proposed Action Step:

Goal 8: Integrate Instructional Design and Assessment
The integration of Open Textbooks/Digital materials should map to goals/outcomes of a course.

Proposed Action Step: Well-designed courses will use instructional materials to support course outcomes and assessments.

Proposed Action Step: Determine the role of the Curriculum Committee in reviewing textbook adoption practices and recommending revised or new textbook review practices.

Proposed Action Step: Ensure that Open Text updates and reports are provided to the College Governance Council (CGC) each month or other designated committees/departments TBD, and shared at the end of the year College Assembly.

Proposed Action Step:

Proposed Action Step:
Goal 9: Establish Communication Processes for all impacted by OER
Share Open Textbook efforts and accomplishments with the students, faculty, staff and our community.

Proposed Action Step:
Utilize college communications to share Open Text success and resource information at regular intervals.

Proposed Action Step: The college administration will assist the initiative by driving participating faculty to start their exploration/search at the customized MCCC web page created by the faculty which streamlines common understanding of the definitions, issues and challenges.

Proposed Action Step:

External & Internal Communication Strategies for MCCC Initiative:

- Current Committee and January 2020 Faculty Convocation Working Group (IN PROCESS)
- Open Text/OER MCCC Faculty Web page: ALREADY CREATED (AVAILABLE ONLINE)
- OER Jumpstart Sheet (document which helps faculty who are curious/unfamiliar with Open Textbooks to begin their search for materials and understand best practices ALREADY CREATED (AVAILABLE ONLINE)
- Myths and Facts Sheet – ALREADY CREATED (AVAILABLE ONLINE)
- Open Text End of Year Reports (PROPOSED)
- MCCC Faculty Surveys and Nationwide Vale & CCOER Surveys (AVAILABLE ONLINE)
- An MCCC Open Text News Bulletin - progress/spotlight/important links (PROPOSED)
- A student/faculty awareness event (PROPOSED)
- Dedicated Librarian Regular Reach Out (PROPOSED)
- Library Staff - Faculty Select Instructional Video (PROPOSED)
Section 5- Reference Sources and Related Documents

In this section you will find additional documentation which has been mentioned in this working plan. Large documents may appear as links.

- Statistics on Open Text 10-year research from Community College Consortium for Open Ed Resources

What’s the bottom-line conclusion from over a decade of OER research?

- Open textbooks have equivalent learning outcomes as commercial textbooks (22 studies, over 100,000 students)
  - no differences based on instructor, same assessment, or incorporating student prior knowledge/achievement

- Courses with open textbooks have lower withdrawal rates than courses with commercial textbooks (11 studies, over 78,000 students)

- Open Text Spreadsheet for MCCC

MCCC Current Open Text Activity Spreadsheet -2019

Will be on a separate sheet for faculty to fill in during Convocation. Please bring your information for us to include.
MCCC Working Institutional Plan for Open Textbook Act – Version 11 20

- Cover Page image and link to MCCC’s Open Ed Resource Website

The Faculty OER Resource Website:
https://mccc0.sharepoint.com/sites/oer

Customized by MCCC Faculty for MCCC Faculty

This is the landing page and link. The site was created over a 2-year period by MCCC Faculty. It clarifies and demystifies OER & provides direct links to open textbook resources.

IT IS A GREAT PLACE TO START!

- OER Jumpstart Sheet LINK

OER JUMPSTART SHEET - Created by Mercer Faculty
https://mccc0.sharepoint.com/:w/s/oer/ERMQryZknKVMoO2wAElVCn8Bend5g0kXv3fheOvvvN5QBg?e=vYGOQN
Selection of Textbooks and Related Educational Materials

Reason for Policy:
To ensure that proper professional consideration has been given to the selection of textbooks and related educational materials and that such selection is consistent with the Code of Ethics for College Officers and Employees and the Agreement Between the Board of Trustees of Mercer County Community College and the Mercer County Community College Faculty Association (Faculty Contract).

Policy Statement --
A. Textbooks and related educational materials shall be chosen primarily for their academic value in support of student learning. It is the duty of the responsible faculty member(s) to use the most suitable educational materials for each course. Factors such as availability and price can influence textbook selection as long as academic value receives primary consideration.
B. Generally, textbooks and related educational materials should be selected for a minimum of three full academic years to facilitate cost savings to interested students via resale of used materials.
C. The only circumstances under which a faculty member may select a textbook or other educational material in which he or she has authorial, editorial or publication involvement, for use in a course that he or she is teaching or supervising, are if the book (1) has been peer-reviewed, (2) is published by a publishing house in which the author has less than a 10% financial interest, and (3) is intended for adoption and use by institutions of higher education.
D. This policy shall be implemented through administrative procedures and guidelines to be authorized by the President.
E. Failure to comply with this policy constitutes a violation of OMB380, Code of Ethics for College Officers and Employees and subjects the individual to disciplinary action.
• Open text/OER Impact Calculator from Lumen LINK

What Are the Impacts of Adopting OER?
The OER Adoption Impact Calculator helps you understand many of the potential impacts of adopting OER instead of traditionally copyrighted learning materials. The values in the Settings on the left are set to defaults based on the published research referenced below. Change the Settings on the left so that they match the situation at your institution in order to see how replacing traditionally copyrighted materials with OER might benefit your students and institution. The information below will update in real time as you make changes.

http://impact.lumenlearning.com/ Impact Calculator

• 2019 College Business Officers Survey on Books and Course Materials

2019 College Business Officers Survey on Books & Course Materials

• Full List Open Text/OER Resources Nationwide

Open Education: Open Textbook Collections
The Open Textbook movement focuses on the creation and use of books which are openly licensed -- in short, free and editable. Textbooks may be openly licensed with a Creative Commons meaning that dependent on the license, they may be legally displayed/uploaded/hosted, distributed, modified, etc. without fee, permission, or conducting a fair use analysis. (See Creative Commons for more information on the various CC open licenses.) Many of the collections will have links to the same books, but each collection has items unique to their collection. Additional books that are not technically "open" are also listed. They may be "free online" but subject to copyright, or they may be low cost options. See also the "Find OER (by discipline)" tab.
Open Textbooks (free and openly licensed)

- **Open Textbook Library (Univ of MN)**
  - The Open Textbook Library is a collection of over 550 freely available electronic textbooks licensed under one of six Creative Commons licenses. Some books include faculty peer reviews. All can be read online and are downloadable for offline reading.

- **Open Stax College (Rice University)**
  - A growing collection of professional quality, peer-reviewed, openly licensed, editable intro-level textbooks. All textbooks are licensed with a Creative Commons Attribution license (CC BY) and are freely available in PDF, HTML, ePub, and customizable via Connexions (cnx.org). iBook versions are $4.99. Hardcover print versions range from $30-50 depending on the size of the book. Most OpenStax books include ancillary material. Many have companion online homework systems available at a discounted rate.
    - Find ancillary materials/textbooks [https://openstax.org/subjects](https://openstax.org/subjects) or ancillaries shared by other faculty members at: [https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/OpenStax](https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/OpenStax)
    - Canvas shells for ALL the OpenStax OER textbooks have been created by the CCC Online Ed Initiative (OEI). The shells are WCAUG 2.0 compliant and designed based upon the OEI design rubric. The shells have Creative Commons Attribution licenses on them so that you can modify them. To find the shells for ALL OpenStax texts, along with an "empty" shells that you can use for any other subject or text, go into Canvas Commons. Search "CCC OEI OER".

- **British Columbia Campus Open Campus Textbook List**
  - Openly licensed textbooks created or listed by BCCampus, a consortium of post-secondary educational institutions in British Columbia.

- **OpenSUNY Textbooks**
  - A growing collection of openly licensed textbooks in a wide variety of topics.

- **MERLOT**
  - MERLOT contains links to freely available online textbooks from a variety of sources. MERLOT II is a project of the California State University System. 
    - Search instructions: (Filter "material type" by "open textbook").

- **OER Commons**
  - OER Commons indexes a wide variety of openly licensed educational materials. Licenses vary by item.
    - Search instructions: (Under "material type" select "textbook" or for a curated collection go to: [https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/open-textbooks](https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/open-textbooks))

- **Saylor Academy Bookshelf**
  - Each of the books in the Saylor Academy bookshelf is freely available for download, online reading, and sharing under one of various open licenses.

- **Directory of Open Access Books**
  - Openly accessible (and many openly licensed) electronic books. Nearly 2,500 books as of January 2015. Includes search and browse finding features. Many times from international...
publishers and strong focus on humanities and social sciences.

- **Connexions**
  - Freely available, open-licensed educational materials in a wide variety of fields (electrical engineering, music, psychology etc.). Rice University.

- **College Open Textbooks**
  - Openly licensed textbooks for a variety of subjects. Focus is on first two years of college.

- **Free textbooks (from Open Culture)**

- **The Global Text Project**
  - Publishes open content electronic textbooks that are freely available. They focus on content development and Web distribution, and work with relevant authorities to facilitate dissemination by other means when bandwidth is unavailable or inadequate. The goal is to make textbooks globally available to the many who cannot afford them.

- **Find free online course materials related to a book (search by ISBN)**

### Books in the Public Domain

- **HathiTrust**
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