

OER Course Marking Landscape Analysis – Survey Draft

Introduction

This survey, administered by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) is a collaborative effort of the [National Consortium of Open Educational Resources \(NCOER\)](#), a partnership of the four higher education regional compacts - [MHEC](#), [NEBHE](#), [SREB](#), and [WICHE](#) - focused on increasing access, affordability, and equity of open educational resources (OER). The survey's purpose is to better understand the landscape of course marking of open educational resources (OER) in postsecondary institutions.

By completing the following survey, you will be contributing knowledge to assist in communication and development of promising practices related to the collection, sharing, and analysis of course marking related to OER. These practices will help institutions and students.

The following information may be helpful as you complete the survey:

- No questions require a mandatory response. We ask that you complete as many as you can.
- Some respondents may have dual roles in institutions and systems. Please complete the survey from either an institutional or system perspective, not both.
- Respondents to the survey will be the first to receive a summary of results. We provide an opportunity for you to share your email at the end of the survey to receive this summary.
- The survey may take 15-20 minutes to complete fully. A copy of the entire set of questions is available here in case it is helpful for you to see the questions in advance, particularly if you would like to collaborate with others in your setting to complete it.
- The survey will close on Friday, June 16th.
- If you have any questions about the survey, please email OER@mhec.org.
- Definitions used throughout this survey:
 - **Open Educational Resources (OER):** “Teaching, learning, and research materials that are either (a) in the public domain or (b) licensed in a manner that provides everyone with free and perpetual permission to engage in the 5R activities - retaining, remixing, revising, reusing, and redistributing the resources.” ([William and Flora Hewlett Foundation](#))
 - **Course marking:** “The process of assigning specific, searchable attributes to courses.” ([Marking Open and Affordable Courses: Best Practices and Case Studies](#))

Privacy statement: The information collected via this survey will only be shared in an aggregated form, and all responses will be kept confidential. If any aspect of the information you provide is included in a publication, your name and employer will NOT be published or in any way associated with the survey findings.

Thank you for sharing your time and knowledge.

{Click here to begin the survey}

Marking Courses that Use OER

1. Does your institution/system have a method for marking courses that use OER?
 - Yes, we have implemented a method for marking courses.
 - No, but we are in the formal planning stage of method development.
 - No, but we have discussed developing a method for marking courses.
 - No, this is not a topic we have discussed at our institution.{Skip Logic: If option 1 – continue to question 2; If option 2 or option 3 – skip to Motivations, Course Marking Challenges and Opportunities, and Respondent Details sections; If option 4 – skip to Respondent Details section}

Course Marking Process

2. Are you responding to this survey from the perspective of an institution or a system? (Some respondents may have dual roles in institutions and systems. Please complete the survey from either an institutional or system perspective, not both.)
 - Institution
 - System
3. At your institution/system, which of the following course marking designation(s) includes OER? (Select all that apply.)
 - OER is its own designation
 - OER is captured as part of “No cost to students/Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC)”
 - OER is captured as part of “Low cost to students/Low Textbook Cost (LTC)”
 - Other {Please describe}
 4. Follow-up: If you are able, please share your definitions of the designations you capture. (Text box)
5. What units or individuals are involved in course marking at your institution/system? (Select all that apply.)
 - Bookstore/campus store
 - Faculty
 - Registrar
 - Instructional design
 - Library
 - Information Technology (IT)
 - Other {please describe}
6. When marking courses using OER, what do you include as “course materials”? (Select all that apply.)
 - Textbooks (includes digital and printed)
 - Supplies (e.g., culinary materials, art supplies, lab materials, calculator)
 - Ancillary materials (e.g., test banks, quizzes, slides, lesson plans, homework platforms, software subscriptions)
 - Other {please describe}

7. Where are course marking data stored for access by the institution/system for administrative purposes? (Select all that apply.)
- Student information system (SIS)
 - Learning management system (LMS)
 - Bookstore/catalog database
 - Separate database
 - Other {Please describe}
8. Where is course marking information displayed for students to access? (Select all that apply.)
- Course catalog
 - Bookstore
 - Registration system
 - Library
 - Institutional website
 - Course marking information is not displayed for students to access.
 - Other {Please describe}
9. If your institution/system has a document outlining the workflow for course marking of OER and you are willing to share it, please upload it here. (PDF, DOC, DOCX, PNG, JPG, JPEG, and GIF files are supported.)
10. Does your institution/system have a committee or task force that oversees course marking of OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
11. Follow-up: If you answered “yes” to the previous question, what is the name of this task force/committee? (Leave blank if your response was “No” or “Unsure”.) (Text box)

Course Marking Validation Process

12. Is training provided for the individuals responsible for marking course data related to OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
13. When an individual marks a course as using OER, is there a process for checking that the course does, in fact, use OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure

Use of Course Marking Data

14. In which of the following ways does your institution/system use course marking data related to OER? (Select all that apply.)
- For cost savings/return on investment (ROI) analyses
 - To provide information to students about course materials
 - To assess impact on student outcomes
 - To comply with reporting requirements
 - Other: {Please describe}
15. Follow-up: If you selected “To provide information to students about course materials” in the previous question, please briefly describe the methods you use to communicate to students about the availability of this information. {Text box}
16. Follow-up: If you selected “To comply with reporting requirements” in the previous question, please briefly describe the relevant reporting requirements. {Text box}

Technology and Bookstore

17. Does your institution/system have a student information system (SIS)?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
18. Follow-up: If you answered “Yes” to the previous question, what student information system (SIS) does your institution/system use?
- EAB Starfish
 - Ellucian Banner
 - Jenzabar SONIS
 - Oracle Student Cloud
 - Workday Student
 - Not applicable
 - Other {Please describe.}
19. Does your institution/system use course catalog software?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
20. Follow-up: If you answered “Yes” to the previous question, what course catalog software does your institution/system use?
- Acalog
 - Coursedog
 - CourseLeaf
 - Watermark
 - Not applicable
 - Other {Please describe.}

21. Follow-up: If your institution/system has an SIS and/or course catalog software, did you need to make changes to your SIS and/or software to be able to mark courses with OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable
22. Follow-up: If SIS and/or software changes were necessary, please briefly describe them here.
{Text box}
23. Which of the following best describes the operation of your institution/system's bookstore?
- Institutionally/systemically operated
 - Independently operated
 - Operated by Barnes & Noble
 - Operated by Follett
 - Other (Please describe.)

Motivations for Course Marking of OER

24. Is there a **state-level policy** related to course marking that impacts your institution/system?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
25. Follow-up: If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, does this **state-level policy** specifically address OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable
26. Follow-up: Please share a link or bill number for any relevant **state-level policies**. {Text box}
27. Is there a **system-level policy** related to course marking that impacts your institution/system?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable – my institution is not part of a system.
28. Follow-up: If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, does this **system-level policy** specifically address OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable

29. Follow-up: If you answered “Yes” to question 27, are all institutions in the system required to follow the course marking policy?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable
30. Follow-up: Please share a link to any relevant **system-level policies**. {Text box}
31. Follow-up: If link(s) are not available, but you are willing to share the **system-level policy** as a document, please upload it here. (PDF, DOC, DOCX, PNG, JPG, JPEG, and GIF files are supported.)
32. Does your **institution have a policy** related to course marking?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable - I am answering on behalf of a system.
33. Follow-up: If you answered “Yes” to the previous question, does this **institution-level policy** specifically address OER?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
 - Not applicable
34. Follow-up: Please share a link to any relevant **institution-level policies**. {Text box}
35. Follow-up: If link(s) are not available, but you are willing to share the institution-level policy as a document, please upload it here. (PDF, DOC, DOCX, PNG, JPG, JPEG, and GIF files are supported.)
36. Please briefly describe the process that led to establishing course marking at your institution/system. (e.g., who made the decision, did the decision require faculty approval, did the decision involve student government?) {Text box}

Course Marking Opportunities and Challenges

37. What is working well at your institution/system related to the marking of courses using OER? {Text box}
38. What obstacles has your institution/system encountered related to the marking of courses using OER? {Text box}

Respondent Details

39. What is your first and last name? {Text box}

40. What is the name of your institution/system/employer? {Text box}

41. What is your job title? {Text box}

42. In which state (including DC, US Territories and Freely Associated States) do you work? {Drop down list}

43. Would you like to receive a summary of findings from this survey?

- Yes
- No

44. As part of our [work on cost savings and return on investment related to OER](#), we will be convening a working group of institutional, state, and national leaders to help advise our work related to course marking of OER data. Would you be interested in participating in such a group? (We will review potential working group candidates to ensure diversity on various factors.)

- Yes
- No

45. Follow-up: If you answered “Yes” to either of the previous questions, please enter your email address here. We will only use your address to contact you about the topics for which you expressed interest. {Text box}