



Institute for the Study of  
Knowledge Management  
in Education

# Shift from subject-centered to student-centered education

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November 12, 2019



Every student deserves the highly effective, engaging, and equitable education needed to reach their full and unique potential.



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# Tracking the Shift

## Subject-Centered

- Subject-based
- Standardized teaching
- One size fits all
- Proprietary Curriculum



## Student-Centered

- Interdisciplinary
- Competency based
- Personalized learning
- Open Educational Resources (OER)

# Competency Based Education



## THE COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION MODEL

Competency-based education measures learning by demonstrated mastery of learning objectives. These objectives are created as modules, which contain the competencies, suggested resources for obtaining the objective, guidance and feedback from a mentor or facilitator and some type of formative assessment.



# Examples of Personalized Learning

## Adaptability of resources

- Address specific (un)finished learning
- In-the-moment adjustments

## Empowering students

- Offer choices/ pathways
- Variable pacing
- Opportunities to go deeper

## Keeping them engaged

- Modifying materials to include personal/ cultural relevance
- Tailoring to interest
- Supporting inquiry, authentic learning tasks

# Defining Open Educational Resources (OER)

- Teaching and learning resources that are free and available to anyone.
- Published under a license that allows them be used, adapted, distributed, and personalized to best meet a learner's needs.



Primary Sources & Datasets



Videos



Games & Simulations



Open Source Software



Lessons &  
Course Materials



Open Textbooks

Using OER creates a shift in teaching practice and opportunities to meet instructional goals by vetting, curating for, and modifying material approaches **personalized to student needs and interests**



# Open Educational Resources (OER): Brief History and Efforts

UNESCO defined the term OER (2002)

The Paris OER Declaration provided a series of recommendations to educational stakeholders and encouraged governments to open license educational materials that are financed through public funds. (2014)

Cape Town Open Education Declaration encouraged a set of strategies around building awareness of OER, creating the OER tools, and OER policy to promote the use of OER (2007)

2<sup>nd</sup> World OER Congress in Slovenia - OER for Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education: From Commitment to Action (2017)



# How OER Supports Student-Centered Learning

- Equitable access so that all educators have the resources and knowledge they need to support learners
- Adaptability so that practitioners and learners can personalize and fit content to local contexts
- Collaborative opportunities for educators to create, evaluate and share relevant and engaging learning experiences
- Building and scaling systems and educator investment around continuous improvement and innovation

# By Educators, For Educators

OER Commons, Digital Public Library Since 2007

<https://www.oercommons.org>

**OER COMMONS**  
Open Educational Resources

Discover ▾ Hubs ▾ Groups ▾ Our Services ▾ [Create](#) ▾ [Sign In/Register](#)

## Explore. Create. Collaborate.

*OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.*

What are you looking for?

Subject ▾ Education Level ▾ Standard ▾

[Fine tune your search with our advanced search](#)

## Create OER with Open Author

Open Author helps you build Open Educational Resources, lesson plans, and courses (on your own, or with others) — and then publish them, to the benefit of educators and learners everywhere. Select one of our authoring formats to get started:

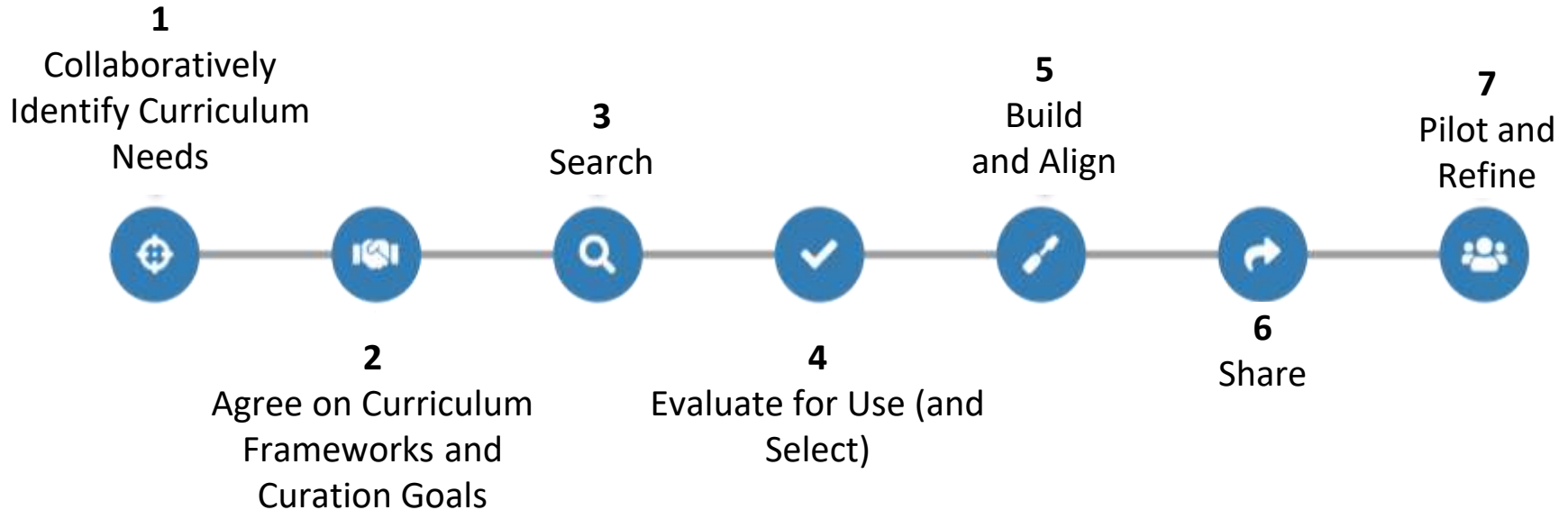
[Help](#)

# How Open Educational Practices Address Student-Centered Learning

- **Collaboration:** educators with diverse expertise connect to focus on learner needs, brainstorm innovative ideas, contribute resources and best practices, reflect and share successes and challenges with the global community
- **Curation:** practitioners identify, evaluate, and organize a rich array of resources, beyond traditional static curriculum, to meet learning goals
- **Design:** personalized learning and continuous improvement of curriculum is enabled by utilizing digital authoring and planning tools to think deeply about how to meet the unique needs of our learners, and reflect and refine resources

# What Does OER Curation Look Like?

*Example Workflow from ISKME's research*



# Examples of OER Policy

- Commonwealth of Learning reported that 55% of the 105 countries who completed a recent survey said there had been increased support for OER policies in the last 5 years.
- Though only 49% thought relevant stakeholders had the necessary skills to access, use and share OER.
- UNESCO Sustainability Development Goal SDG-4, Quality Education
- #GoOpen initiated at the U.S. Department of Education in 2015 has commitments from 20 states and 120 districts to use OER

# Next steps for student-centered learning

- Building capacity for education stakeholders to own the transition
- Offering professional and skills development for OER use, re-use, sharing
- Revising materials to have language and culture relevance
- Shifting industry and market towards student-centered materials
- Advocating for supportive policy environments around licensing and procurement policies

# What Research on OER Use Shows Us

## *A few key findings*

### **For Educators**

- Using OER increases collaboration among educators around curriculum and instruction
- Using OER increases reflective practice for educators

### **For Learners**

- Using OER increases student interest in the subject, and satisfaction with the learning experience
- Using OER supports students as self-directed learners



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# New Education Paradigm: Questions to Ask

- Learning—for what purpose? A specific job, critical thinking, collaboration and communication?
- What changes need to be made to make materials better reflect the demographics of their community?
- How to make education more relevant for today's learners, whether or not they are in formal systems of education?
- Why is education still so inaccessible to so many? How can we be using universal design for learning to change that?