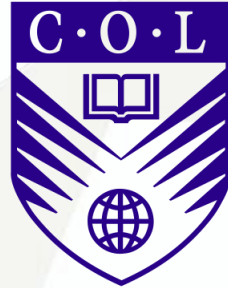




The Commonwealth



20th CONFERENCE OF COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION MINISTERS
Sustainability and Resilience: Can Education Deliver?



Open Textbooks, Open Education Resources and MOOCs in the Commonwealth

Dr Venkataraman Balaji

Director: Technology and Knowledge Management

20CCEM | Nadi, Fiji | February 19, 2018

Open Educational Resources

- any type of educational materials that are in the public domain or introduced with an open license.
- anyone can legally and freely copy, use, adapt and re-share them.
- OERs range from textbooks to curricula, syllabi, lecture notes, assignments, tests, projects, audio, video and animation.

UNESCO and COL



OER in the Commonwealth

Major publishers are found in:



India



Nigeria



Pakistan



South Africa



UK

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OERs by Area of Interest



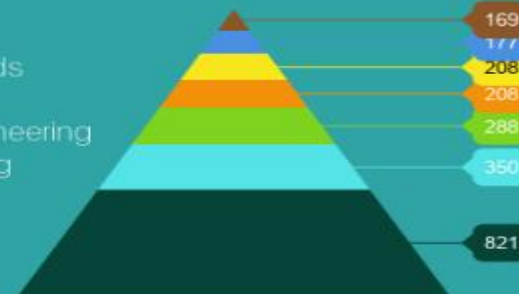
6283

OERs from 201 publishers across the Commonwealth



Major Publishers

Popular Subjects





OER can lead to Open Textbooks



- What is an Open Textbook?
- *OER gathered, assembled and arranged in a way to suit a curriculum or a competency objective*
- Textbook = Print format
- Open Textbook = multiple formats (Text, audio/video, animations etc)
- Most important
 - *Openly licensed for re-use, copying and adaptation*
 - *Teachers gaining control*

Guide to Developing Open Textbooks

What about Quality?

- Open Textbooks are collaboratively developed
 - By educators, for educators
 - Reviewed continuously by educators
- Focused on improving learning outcomes (not profits alone)
- They can be updated easily and frequently
 - Cannot do so with a conventional textbook



Examples of Open Textbooks Initiatives

- USA



- The California College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 (AB 798)

- USA

- Utah Open Textbooks Initiative
- Cost of a printed and delivered Open Textbook: \$5
- Cost of a traditional one : \$80
- Students gained about 6% in test scores



- Canada

- BC Campus – about 40 Open Textbooks (college level)
- E-Ontario Campus: about 200 Open Textbooks



Browse the Collection

Please search the collection as a library catalogue or database. For example, to retrieve all results related to sociology, you may want to use sociolog* as this will include books with any ending to the root ~ sociology, sociological, sociologist, and sociologists ~ in the title or description.

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Differential Calculus for the Life Sciences

Adopted

Author(s): Leah Edelstein-Keshet, University of British Columbia

Date: Feb 14, 2018

Description: Calculus arose as a tool for solving practical scientific problems through the centuries. However, it is often taught as a technical subject with rules and formulas (and occasionally theorems), devoid of its connection to applications. In this textbook, the applications form an important focal point, with emphasis on life sciences. This places the techniques and concepts into practical context, as well as motivating quantitative approaches to biology taught to undergraduates. While many of the ...[\[more\]](#)

Introduction to Criminal Investigation: Processes, Practices and Thinking

Adopted

Author(s): Rod Gehl, Justice Institute of British Columbia, Darryl Plecas, University of the Fraser Valley

Date: Feb 13, 2018

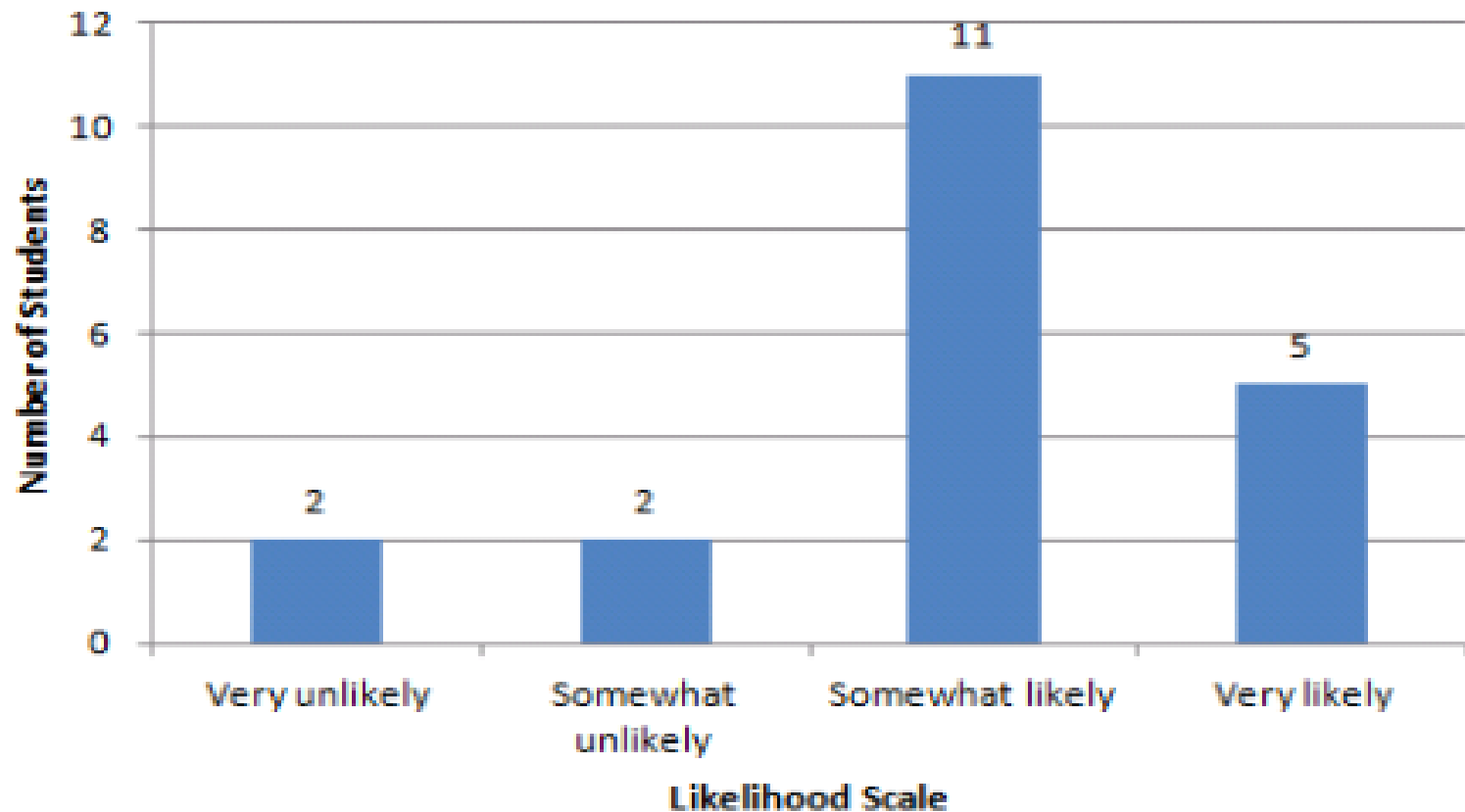
Description: Introduction to Criminal Investigation, Processes, Practices, and Thinking, as the title suggests, is a teaching text describing and segmenting criminal investigations into its component parts to illustrate the craft of criminal investigation. Delineating criminal investigation within the components of task-skills and thinking-skills, this book describes task-skills such incident response, crime scene management, evidence management, witness management, and forensic analysis, as essential found...[\[more\]](#)

Open Textbooks in Antigua State College

- Savings projected to EC\$ 704 per student
 - Potentially up to EC\$ 905 000 for all learners in the college
- Improved test scores
 - Improved by 5.5%
- Advantages noted by the learners:
 - Cost effectiveness
 - accessibility
 - portability and
 - relevance of the information



Antigua State College: Students' likelihood to register for a future course with online texts

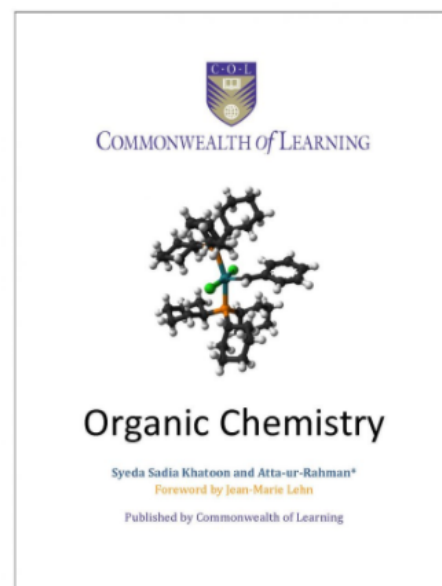


Open Videobook in Chemistry

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Foreword	
Preface	
Chapter 1 – Chapter 10	→ Chapter 1: Basic principles
Chapter 11 – Chapter 20	→ Chapter 2: Bonding and Molecular Structure
Chapter 21 – Chapter 30	→ Chapter 3: Nomenclature
Chapter 31 – Chapter 43	→ Chapter 4: Acids and Bases
	Chapter 5: Functional Group Chemistry
	Chapter 6: Stereochemistry
	Chapter 7: Organic Reactions Mechanisms
	Chapter 8: Chemical Equilibrium
	Chapter 9: Kinetics
	Chapter 10: Ionic Reactions: Nucleophilic Substitution and Elimination Reactions

Principles of Organic Chemistry Compendium of Video Lectures

Syeda Sadia Khatoon and Atta-ur-Rahman*
Foreword by Jean-Marie Lehn



OER can be distributed anywhere



Thank You

col.org

