

OER Student User Guide

Open educational resources (OER) can come in a variety of forms such as text, video, audio, and mixed media. Below are some tools that have been identified for engaging with OER content along with recommendations about each tool.

Computer/Laptop



Most OER content requires some access to the Internet since most of the content is stored online. You can use either your own personal computer or a computer in a computer lab on campus to view OER online or to download it. Downloading OER onto your personal computer or laptop allows for quick and easy reference. Other benefits to downloading materials include:

- Access materials at any time with or without being connected to the internet
- Having the ability to annotate and highlight material (with certain programs such as [Adobe Reader](#))
- Creating a custom study sheet (copy and paste specific content from OER into a Word document and then customize it)

Note: if you download material from a campus lab computer, be sure to save any content it onto a thumb drive or consider other storing options, such as [Google Drive](#), [OneDrive](#), or [Box](#).

Tablet and Mobile Devices

Content may also be viewed or downloaded onto tablets and mobile devices depending upon the storage space on the device. Be aware of what type of file formats the OER is in and which application is most likely to be useful. Most content should be accessible through a web browser, but, for annotating, note-taking, and editing OER, it might be a good idea to find the best app for the job. Here are just a few of the many apps and programs to choose from:

Viewing OER		Digital Note Taking	Highlighting and Annotating
Android	iPhone	Evernote (FREE)	Adobe Acrobat Reader DC (FREE)
Ebook Reader	iBooks	OneNote (FREE)	
		Notability (\$6.99)	
			GoodReader (\$4.99)



Note: If the tablet or device has a mobile data plan, it might be useful to download the OER content when you are on a Wi-Fi network (such as at home or on campus while connected to [BlueZone](#)) to avoid going over a download or data quota.

Physical Copies



Most content may be printed either from home or through a third-party (such as [Staples](#)). You have the option to either print the entire OER document or only the pages you need. To maximize page space, you can also adjust font size and margins before you print. The option to purchase the text from the [USU Campus Store](#) or online may be available. Please consult with your instructor to find out if that is an option.

If you would like more information about OER please visit the [USU OER website](#).