RESOURCES

INTRODUCTORY PUBLICATIONS


OPEN TEXTBOOK REPOSITORIES

- OpenStax (standalone books): [https://openstax.org/subjects](https://openstax.org/subjects)
- UMN Open Textbook Library: [https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/](https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/)
- MERLOT: [https://www.merlot.org/merlot/](https://www.merlot.org/merlot/)
- UWGB Libguide: [https://libguides.uwgb.edu/oer](https://libguides.uwgb.edu/oer)
- LibreTexts: [https://libretexts.org/](https://libretexts.org/)
- OASIS: [https://oasis.geneseo.edu/](https://oasis.geneseo.edu/)
- OER Commons: [https://www.oercommons.org/](https://www.oercommons.org/)


CREATING AN OPENSTAX COURSE IN CANVAS

CREATING A WORKSPACE

1. Log into Canvas
2. Click on Help (?)
3. Select *Create a Master Course*
4. You must enter a Course Name, Course Code and Department; however, none of these really matter and are just there to help you identify the course from your dashboard, and when importing materials later. You can enter anything you’d like in these fields.
5. Click *Create Course*
   - Note: You can click on “Let’s Go!” to enter the course, but that’s not necessary at this time.

MOVING OPENSTAX MATERIALS INTO YOUR COURSE

1. Click on the Canvas Commons link from the main, left-hand navigation (C->)
2. To get the best results, search for “OpenStax” or “CVC OEI.” Both return some results we probably don’t want. You can also append your subject to the search for fewer results, e.g. “OpenStax Chemistry.”
3. At this time, when looking at the results, look for these indicators:
   a. “Course”
   b. openstax branding
c. California Community Colleges (CVC)

Above, you see two potential search outcomes. The left-hand tile is what we’re looking for. The right-hand tile may also be good, but is the author’s (possible) adaption of an OpenStax text into their Canvas course versus a concerted effort.

4. Click on a search result for your subject. You can now preview the course modules, assignments, quizzes, and other components. To go back and find others, click on the Back to Search button in the upper-left. If this looks good, continue below.

5. Click the blue Import/Download button.

6. Check the box next to the Master Course you created above. Click Import into Course. The import process takes a few minutes to complete.

7. Click on your Dashboard, then on the master course you sent your OpenStax material to.

**CONFIGURING YOUR OPENSTAX CANVAS COURSE**

When you first enter your OpenStax course, you’re taken to the Welcome Page. Our Canvas environmental doesn’t permit this setup, so when you reload the page or click on Home you’ll be taken to the familiar Canvas layout.

The OpenStax courses from CVC OEI generally all have the following layout in Home

I. **Landing Page** module (published)
   a. Welcome page 1
   b. Welcome page 2

II. **INSTRUCTORS: Read this First!** module (unpublished)
    - Various how-to and sample instructional pages
    - Leave this module unpublished
    - Some resources are CVC specific and can be ignored

III. **Getting Started (SAMPLE)** module (unpublished)
    - Various getting started template pages and icebreakers you can modify and make available (or not) to your students

IV. **Chapter 1, 2, 3…** modules (published)
    - Each chapter section from the text linked to from within relevant modules

**GUIDE TO EDITING CVC SAMPLE PAGES**

There are two different types of customization highlight notes to look out for in the course: **Customization Notes to Faculty** and **Content for Faculty to Customize**. It is suggested that you delete customization notes and yellow-highlighting before students enter your course.
CUSTOMIZATION NOTES TO FACULTY

Keep a look out for instructor customization notes. They will be characterized by a green background with white text:

CONTENT FOR FACULTY TO CUSTOMIZE

You'll find text highlighted in yellow to indicate where you'll need to customize the content based on your situation. (We suggest you remove the highlighting once you've edited the text.)

OTHER AREAS TO VISIT

Some of the OpenStax courses from CVC have additional activities like Discussions, Quizzes, Surveys, and Assignments. Please take a moment to visit these areas to ensure things you don’t want students to do aren’t published. If you’re certain you don’t want a component, it is best to just delete it.

Navigation – the CVC courses come with specific navigation for the course set up. To modify this, click on Settings->Navigation (tab) and drag and drop the items you’d like (in)visible to the appropriate areas. Make sure to Save your changes at the bottom of the page.

Syllabus – the CVC courses make use of the Syllabus tool in Canvas. Many UWGB instructors find this tool redundant and confusing to students. If you don’t plan on using the tool, hide it through the Navigation steps above. If you do like the tool, make sure to invest some time editing to suit your course.

MODULE CLEAN-UP – YOU’LL LIKELY WANT TO CONSIDER:

- Unpublishing specific chapters and sections
- Adding links from modules to assignments, discussions, and quizzes [use the +]
- Drag and drop modules and book section links to re-order [look for the ‼️]