Welcome to Affordable Learning Georgia

Affordable Learning Georgia (ALG) is:

- A University System of Georgia (USG) initiative to promote student success by providing affordable textbook alternatives
- A one-stop service to help USG faculty and staff identify lower-cost, electronic, free, and Open Educational Resources, building on the cost-effective subscription resources provided by GALILEO and the USG libraries
- A California State University-MERLOT partner benefit service

USG Open Textbook Project

Dr. Marie Lasseter of the University System of Georgia discusses recent USG efforts to encourage development of Open Textbooks to help reduce the costs of education.
Background: Textbooks and Student Success Barriers

- According to a study of the U.S. Government Accountability Office, between 2002 and 2013, the price of college textbooks rose 82 percent — nearly three times the rate of inflation.

- The annual average amount spent by college students on textbooks is 26% of the cost of tuition at a public, four-year university.

- A survey of more than 2,000 students from more than 150 different campuses across the country conducted last fall.
  - 65 percent said they had decided against buying a textbook because it was too expensive.
  - Nearly half (48 percent) said the cost of books had an impact on how many or which classes they took.
  - 94 percent of the students who had skipped buying a required book said they were concerned that doing this would hurt their grade in that course.

Photograph of signing of the first book published by a faculty member at Georgia College, Milledgeville, Baldwin County, Georgia, 1956. Vanishing Georgia, Georgia Division of Archives and History, Office of Secretary of State. Digital Library of Georgia.
What is OER?

- OER (Open Education Resources) are educational resources freely available on the web that anyone can use. This includes entire courses, syllabi, tutorials, quizzes, assignments, open textbooks, and more.
Affordable Learning Georgia: Progress, June 2013 to date:

- Launched Affordable Learning Georgia (ALG) web clearinghouse for lower cost textbook and other learning material solutions, including Open Educational Resources, Textbooks, and alternative learning materials provided through GALILEO and the USG libraries. [www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org](http://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org)

- **California MERLOT**: Established partnership with California State University for accessing lower cost textbook and other learning material solutions.
Affordable Learning Georgia: Progress, June 2013 to date:

- Launched the first USG-developed electronic Open Textbook, US History I. The textbook is now in use in the USG's eCore History I classes and has already saved these students more than $44,000 over the Summer and Fall 2013 semesters.

- Summer and Fall 2013 total student savings from the use of Open Textbooks in e-Core Calculus I, Intro to Statistics, and U.S. History I totaled over $84,000.

- In Spring 2013, prior to open text implementation, 88% of the students in HIST2111 competed the course. In summer 2013, the first semester the open text for US history was implemented in the course, retention increased to 94%. Similarly, successful student completion of the US History I course also rose from 56% in the spring (pre open-text) to 84% in the summer with the open textbook.
Beta site now available

http://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org
What Are Open Textbooks?

Open textbooks are typically authored by faculty and published on the web with the support of universities or new commercial companies. This new business model enables free online access to textbooks.

Open textbooks are usually governed by Creative Commons licenses that enable users to download, customize or print the textbook without expressed written consent of the author. In contrast, new commercial companies provide free access to the textbook content online, while charging lower prices for print products and suplemental services.

The EDUCAUSE LEARNING INITIATIVE has provided a nice overview of the 7 Things You Should Know About Open Textbook Publishing (pdf) by Judy Baker and Jacky Hood from Foothill College (California Community College)

How Can I Find Open Textbooks? Easy!

MERLOT's collection has over 2,500 Open Textbooks. Click on a link to your subject area and you'll get a hit list of Open Textbooks in different sub-disciplines. MERLOT's indexing tools enable easy browsing and searching the entire collection of open textbooks.

- Academic Support Services
- Arts
- Business
- Education
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Science and Technology
The Range of Open Content

- CC Search
- OpenCourseware Consortium
- Connexions
- DOAJ Directory of Open Access Journals
- Internet Archive
- OER Commons
- Open Textbook Library
- Doab Directory of Open Access Books
- MERLOT II
DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS ARE A HIT WITH BIOLOGY STUDENTS SO FAR

UGA classes trying out free digital textbooks

By Lee Shearer
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University of Georgia students, and some of their professors, have been trying for years to beat the high cost of textbooks, but now they’re getting institutional backing.

Students in a couple of UGA introductory biology courses are getting free digital textbooks this semester thanks to a $25,000 University System of Georgia grant.

Students actually broke into applause when they heard on the first day of class they wouldn’t have to plunk down about $100 each for a biology textbook, said Eddie Watson, director of UGA’s Center for Teaching and Learning.

“I find it more effective. It saves me money and weight in my backpack,” said Shandron Williams, a senior English major from Roswell taking one of the biology classes.

Biology professor Peggy Brickman, team-teaching the courses with colleagues Erin Dolan and Tessa Andrews, is happy to save students some money. Students don’t have to pay for a book that’s outdated almost as soon as it’s published, and which few ever look at after they’ve taken the course.

And a paper textbook is in a way simply old-fashioned to many students who are accustomed to getting information on computer and smart phone screens, she said.

“Tfink it’s more in tune with what they’ve accustomed to in their own lives,” said Brickman.

Press
Topic 6: Genotype to Phenotype [Class Session 10-4-2013]

i. Learning Objectives

- Explain how genotypic variation leads to phenotypic variation
- Explain sources of genetic variation that serve as the basis for genetic testing
- Use a Punnett square to calculate the expected proportions of genotypes and phenotypes in a monohybrid cross
- If provided information about a human genetic disorder, be able to predict likelihood of passing on a genetic trait to a child
- Distinguish between the necessity for both parents or only a single parent to carry an allele in order to predict the probability that an offspring will exhibit a specific trait.
- Recognize when human conditions, disease states, or other traits are the result of one or more genes or are influenced by factors other than genes such as the environment and behavioral choices.

ii. Pre-Class Reading
Due at 1:25 PM on Friday, October 4, 2013

1. Chapter 7.1 Mendel's crosses
http://cnx.org/content/m45469/latest/?collection=col11520/latest

2. Chapter 7.2 Laws of Inheritance: (Phenotypes and Genotypes, Law of Segregation, Test Cross)
http://cnx.org/content/m45470/latest/?collection=col11520/latest

3. Chapter 7.3 – Extension of the Laws of Inheritance: (Alternatives to Dominance and Recessiveness) http://cnx.org/content/m45471/latest/?collection=col11520/latest

*Videos:

4. Tutorial: How are traits inherited?
http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/begin/traitstour/traits/tour_trait.html

5. What is a phenotype?
https://www.23andme.com/gen101/phenotype

iii. Pre-Class Self-Quiz (Genotype to Phenotype)
Due at 10:30 PM on Friday, October 4, 2013

Genotype to Phenotype Quiz

iv. Lecture Slides

GeneticTesting VI Powerpoint
Using Library Resources Instead of Textbooks

Substitute GALILEO Resources for Textbooks

Syllabus courses
- EDES4650 City Planning
- EDES6270 GIS in Environ Design
- EDES6550 Hist BLT Environment
- CMLT2110 Western World Lit
- CMLT2111 World Literature

videos

You Tube
Using Library Resources Instead of Textbooks

- Begin with your syllabus and consider your learning objectives for each component of the course. Are there library resources such as eJournals or eBooks that could be combined as a substitute for textbooks?

- Make an appointment with your reference librarian and s/he can guide you with the power discovery tools available to find resources for your students.
Thank you for your time and participation today!