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## WRT 150: Strategies in Writing OER Curation

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# WRT 150: Strategies in Writing OER Curation

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## Overview

### Scope Notes

This OER curation is designed for the high-enrollment Strategies in Writing course, and is based on a sample of syllabi rather than for a specific instructor. Instructors who would like OER options that better fit their individual classes and genres of teaching materials can request an individual WRT 150 for their class.

### Current textbooks and materials

Dickerson, Sarah et al. A Guide to First-Year Writing at Grand Valley State University, 2018-19 (Kendall Hunt, 2018). \$12 ISBN: 9781524931940

Hacker, Diana. A Pocket Style Manual. 8th ed. (Bedford/St. Martins, 2017). \$35 ISBN: 978-8925598406

Lunsford, Andrea. EasyWriter. 7th ed. (Bedford/St. Martins, 2020). \$28. ISBN: 978-1319361457

Palmquist, Michael. The Bedford Researcher, 6th ed. (Bedford/St. Martins, 2017). \$66 ISBN: 978-1319245078

Ballenger, Bruce. The Curious Researcher, Pearson, 2017. \$40 ISBN: 978-0134498263

### Search Notes

There are many OER options for first and second year writing courses. This search focused on open materials that could replace or supplement the currently used primary textbooks in general WRT 150 courses, and that focused specifically on academic writing. Ultimately, we limited our search to the most promising options, but there are more OERs for writing courses and more



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likely in development. OER sources that were searched included OpenStax, OER Commons, OpenOregon, BCCampus, Open Textbook Library, and Merlot.

## Gap Analysis

There are not major OER gaps for the general WRT 150 course. There is a gap for a full OER version of some style manuals, but there are numerous existing free resources online to bridge that gap. However, more OER options would always be beneficial and there may be gaps that come to our attention for individual classes for this course.

## Promising OER Options

### Writing in College

- Amy Guptill. Writing in College: From Competence to Excellent (SUNY Brockport, 2016).
- [Open Textbook Library](#)
- PDF, ebook, online
- CC BY-NC-SA
- This textbook is geared toward college students who have already mastered high-school writing conventions and are moving beyond the five-paragraph essay to make more advanced academic arguments. The text features discussions, multidisciplinary examples, and a welcoming tone. Additionally, each chapter includes peer-to-peer advice from other undergraduate students about their strategies for college writing. This text would be ideal for an instructor who does have college-ready students and wants to create an empathetic, welcoming atmosphere in the classroom.

### Introduction to Writing in College

- Melanie Gagic. Introduction to Writing in College. (MSL Academic Endeavours, 2017).
- [Pressbooks](#)
- PDF, epub, Mobi
- CC BY-NC-SA
- This OER is designed specifically as an introductory writing text for college students. The book covers an introduction to college, reading in a writing class, writing as a process, thinking and analyzing rhetorically, and finally making an academic argument. This text is ideal for a first year writing course to build a solid introductory foundation for college writing..

### Writing Spaces

- Edited by Dana Driscoll, Megan Heise, Mary Stewart, and Matthew Vetter. Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing, Volume 4. (WAC Clearinghouse, 2021).
- [WAC Colorado State University](#)

- PDF, epub
- CC BY-NC-ND
- This is a collection of essays for use in the first year writing classroom, all written by writing teachers for students. The OER covers topics, such as place-based research, source credibility, technologies of trust, equitable language practices, social media, accessibility, feedback, racial literacy, research communities, privacy and digital technologies, navigating social contexts, writing workflows, transfer, grading, genre, writing for social change, and more. Teaching strategies and discussion questions follow each chapter.

## About Writing

- Robin Jeffrey. About Writing: A Guide (OpenOregon, 2015).
- [OER Commons](#)
- Epub, Mobi, PDF
- CC BY
- This writer's reference condenses and covers everything a beginning writing student needs to successfully compose college-level work, including the basics of composition, grammar, and research. It is broken down into easy-to-tackle sections, while not overloading students with more information than they need.

## The Word on College Reading and Writing

- Carol Burnell; Jaime Wood; Monique Babin; Susan Pesznecker; and Nicole Rosevear. The Word on College Reading and Writing. (OpenOregon).
- [Open Oregon](#)
- Epub, PDF, Mobi, print book, XML
- CC BY-NC
- This OER is an interactive, multimedia text that introduces students to reading and writing at the college level. It was written by five college reading and writing instructors from the experience of teaching students who are entering the college reading and writing environment for the first time. It includes examples, exercises, and definitions for just about every reading and writing related topic students will encounter in their college courses.

## Writing for Success

- Writing for Success. (University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing, 2015).
- [Open Textbook Library](#)
- PDF, ebook, xml, ODF, online
- CC BY-NC-SA
- This is a core text that builds writing, reading, and critical thinking skills with an incremental approach. The text includes chapters, such as what makes a good sentence, separating ideas and shaping content, writing essays from start to finish, and APA and

MLA documentation. The ultimate goal of the OER is to enable every student to demonstrate mastery of the principles of quality writing.

## The Process of Research Writing

- Steven D. Krause. The Process of Research Writing (Eastern Michigan University, 2007).
- [Open Textbook Library](#)
- Online, PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- This writing textbook focuses on guiding students through the process of research writing with series of exercises, exploring the different parts of the research process, and how to present one's research. The author believes that often instructors tend to separate thinking, researching, and writing into different categories, but that these elements are more intertwined. This text may not be the right fit for all courses, but for instructors seeking a more holistic and rigorous WRT 150 section this may be an ideal OER textbook.