Explore

Wherever I went in the US and Canada, the Equity Rubric for OER Evaluation was ooed and aahhed about – and I am so inclined to join the enthusiasm surrounding the Rubric, that it has become the foundation upon which I have built this site (ah, the beauty of CC licensing!).

The Equity Rubric for OER Evaluation was developed by the Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity to help instructors check whether their curriculum materials are equitable by examining them against four Dimensions:

- Learner-Centred
- Critical
- Culturally Sustaining
- Universally Designed for Learning

How to Use the Rubric and EmpoweredOER Site

Designed for versatility, the Rubric accommodates a wide variety of OER evaluation needs:

- Evaluate a resource you already have
  - Assess overall equity
  - Assess an individual aspect of equity, such as cultural responsiveness
- Fill an equity gap
  - Understand the characteristics of an OER you would like to find to meet an equity need

Check out the full Rubric, with background research and instructions for use, then explore EmpoweredOER below to ground each Dimension of the Rubric in concrete examples which are (mostly) Australian and delve into further contextualised materials for deeper learning.

Keep these printable documents handy for reference as you work through your evaluation:

- [Using EmpoweredOER to Evaluate a Resource](#) (pdf)
  An example scenario of how to use this site.
- [EmpoweredOER Evaluation Quick Check](#) (pdf)
  A quick reference version of the evaluation criteria.

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Learner-Centred

Learners are at the centre of OER design and their prior knowledge and experience are respected as valuable additions to the learning environment.

There are nine evaluation criteria within the Learner-Centred dimension. Explore each criterion for explanations and examples.

Access

Provides multimodal access to the content.

Identities

Makes clear connections to learners' intersectional identities and lived experiences.

Funds of Knowledge

Leverages learners' funds of knowledge.

Interests

Meaningfully and authentically connects to learner interests and provides ways for learners to direct their own learning.

Voices

Invites students to be co-creators of the learning experience and have decision making power OR students' thoughts, attitudes, and actual work is incorporated into the resource in visible ways.

Value

Actively incorporates activities/assignments that have value beyond school.

Personalisation

Encompasses all or most aspects of personalised learning.

Meaning Construction

Facilitates and promotes learners' ability to create meaning from content.

Agency

Empowers personal challenge, motivation, and agency that facilitates the learning process.

Critical

OER are critically reviewed, issues are challenged and stereotypes are subverted.

There are five evaluation criteria within the Critical dimension. Explore each criterion for explanations and examples.

Perspective

Challenges perspectives within instructional materials.

Equity & Inclusion

Implements measures to resolve issues of equity and inclusion and eliminates barriers to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Narratives

Uses asset-based narratives.

Empathy

Creates space for learners' empathetic interactions and practices.

Divergence

Empowers divergent thinking and methods of making meaning of the content.

Culturally Sustaining

OER challenge historic methods of legitimising academia and recognise and celebrate each learner's culture, inviting learners to engage with a topic through the richness of their own lens.

There are five evaluation criteria within the Culturally Sustaining dimension. Explore each criterion for explanations and examples.

Pluralism

Perpetuates and fosters linguistic, literature, and cultural pluralism for positive social transformation and revitalisation.

Intersectionality

Re-centres educational practices around the languages, literacies, and cultural traditions that students bring into classrooms.

Counter-Hegemony

Challenges the hegemonic "white gaze" through which academic performance has been historically legitimised.

Sustainment

Leverages opportunities for learners to celebrate their own cultures and cultural heritages, as well as the culture and cultural heritage of peers.

Connections

Critically centres around learners' home and community experiences.

Universally Designed for Learning

There is no single way of learning. All learners and styles of learning are included and engaged by design.

There are three evaluation criteria within the Universally Designed for Learning dimension. Explore each criterion for explanations and examples.

Engagement

Activates internalisation options for self-regulation by promoting expectations and beliefs that optimise motivation, personal coping skills self-assessment and reflection.

Representation

Activates internalisation with options for comprehension through the supplying of background knowledge, highlighting of patters, and relationships.

Action & Expression

Activates internalisation options for guiding appropriate goal-setting, strategy development, and monitoring progress.

Have something great to add? Let's continue the collaboration.

Contribute