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Language OERs in Open Repositories

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Smile
Lab





HELLENIC
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OF MACEDONIA



WHAT WE DO

<https://smile.uom.gr/>



RESEARCH

SMILE's main research activities are in the area of Mobile Learning. We tackle problems such as the need for 'everywhere & anytime' continuous learning.



DEVELOPMENT

SMILE designs, develops and evaluates Educational Integrations. WE create mobile interactive learning systems that enable learners to learn wherever and whenever they need to.

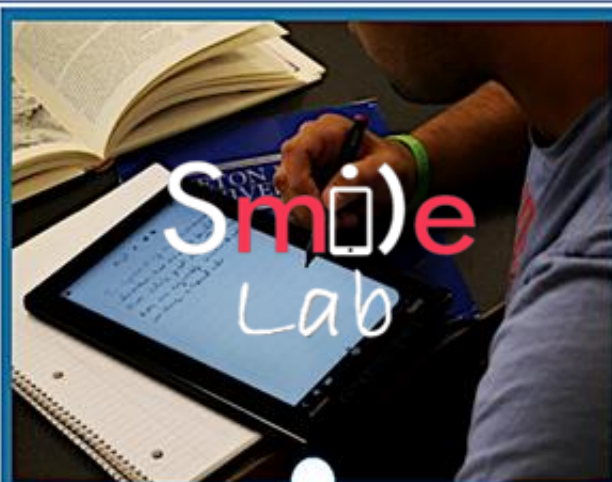


TRAINING

SMILE provides blended teaching training and assesment to students, educators, entrepreneurs, professionalls and unemployed on multiple subjects.



SMART



MOBILE



INTERACTIVE



LEARNING

Outline of the Presentation



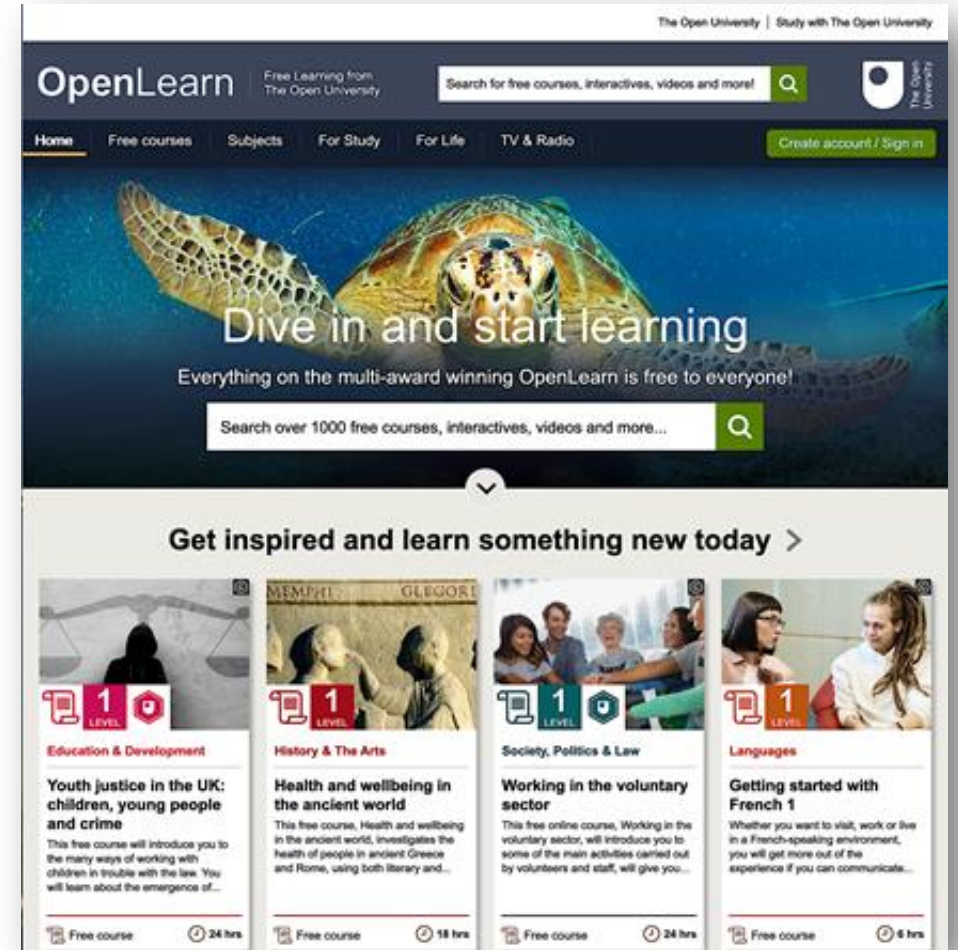
- ✓ The problem
- ✓ Well-known Repositories of OER (ROER) for Languages
- ✓ Language OER in ROER
- ✓ Findings & Suggestions
- ✓ Conclusions

The problem

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Repositories of OER (ROER) for
teaching & learning Languages

What is the Reputation & Usage of ROER?



The screenshot shows the OpenLearn website homepage. At the top, it features the OpenLearn logo, the tagline "Free Learning from The Open University", and a search bar. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for Home, Free courses, Subjects, For Study, For Life, and TV & Radio. A prominent banner image of a sea turtle is overlaid with the text "Dive in and start learning" and "Everything on the multi-award winning OpenLearn is free to everyone!". Below the banner is another search bar. The main content area is titled "Get inspired and learn something new today" and displays four course cards. Each card includes a level indicator (Level 1), a category, a title, a brief description, and the course duration.

Category	Course Title	Level	Duration
Education & Development	Youth justice in the UK: children, young people and crime	1	24 hrs
History & The Arts	Health and wellbeing in the ancient world	1	18 hrs
Society, Politics & Law	Working in the voluntary sector	1	24 hrs
Languages	Getting started with French 1	1	6 hrs

Multilingualism in EU

Most spoken foreign languages:

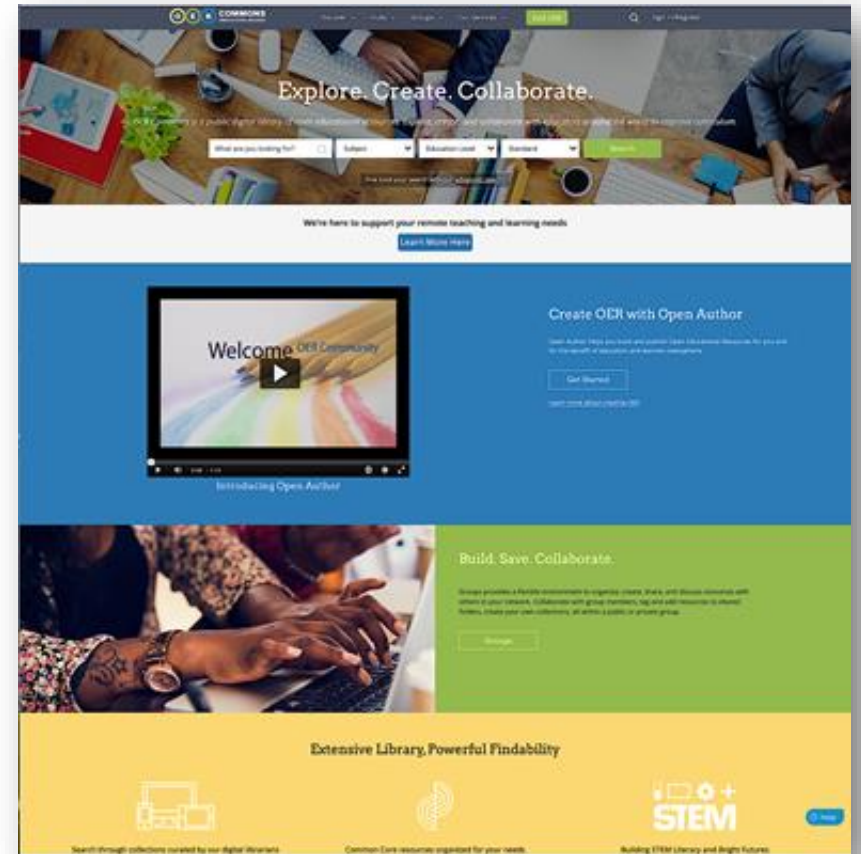
- ❑ English (38%)
- ❑ French (12%)
- ❑ German (11%)
- ❑ Spanish (7%)

Most useful foreign languages:

- ❑ English (67%)
- ❑ German (17%)
- ❑ French (16%)
- ❑ Spanish (14%)
- ❑ Chinese (6%)
- ❑ Italian (5%)

Well-known Repositories of OER (ROER)

- ✓ COERLL
- ✓ Curriki
- ✓ DOER
- ✓ MERLOT
- ✓ MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW)
- ✓ OASIS
- ✓ OER Commons
- ✓ OpenLearn
- ✓ Open Textbook Library



Research findings(1)

OER Repositories	English	French	German	Italian	Portuguese	Spanish
COERLL	0	12	8	3	8	20
Curriki	811	7	3	3	1	35
DOER	1,176	30	17	8	3	12
MERLOT	647	509	178	51	181	487
MIT OCW	7	15	9	1	5	13
OASIS	44	3	5	5	2	9
OER Commons	292	169	126	8	12	302
OpenLearn	22	10	8	3	0	9
Open Textbook Library	3	7	2	3	2	3



- ❑ Dominance of OER for teaching & learning **English**
- ❑ Few integrated Open Courses or Textbooks
Mostly **parts** of a course
- ❑ Lack of metadata to describe languages skills:
Reading, Listening, Writing, Speaking, Grammar and Syntax



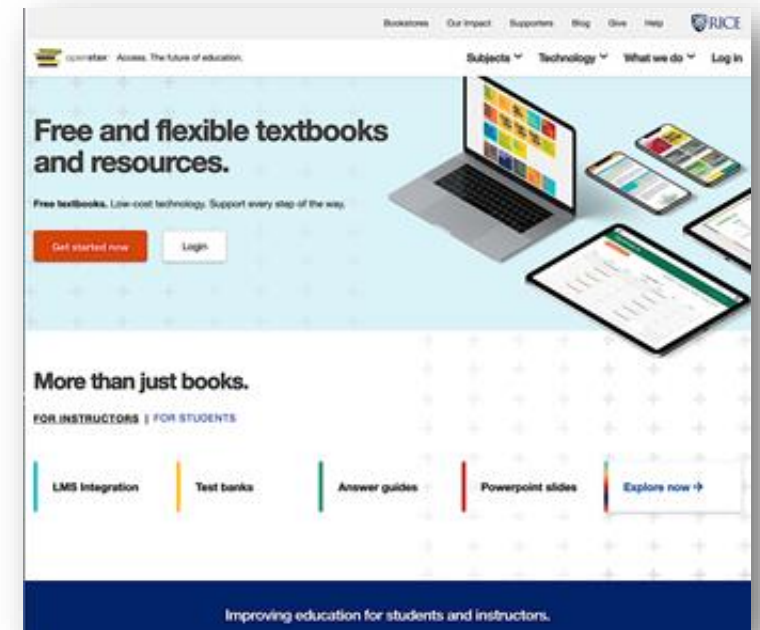
Challenges in ROER

- ❑ Different structure & organization
- ❑ Different metadata for OER
- ❑ Different ways for searching & browsing
- ❑ Inaccurate search results
- ❑ Missing or inaccurate information in metadata



Suggestions to ROER Administrators (1)

- ❑ Adopt **common metadata, taxonomies & granularity**
- ❑ Associate a persistent identifier (**PID**) to each OER
- ❑ Use **metadata** that are:
 - ❑ easy-to-use
 - ❑ comprehensive
 - ❑ accurate
- ❑ **ROER Collaboration & Interconnection**



Suggestions to ROER Administrators (2)

- ❑ Periodic update
- ❑ Communities of authors & curators
- ❑ Training authors & curators
- ❑ Periodic evaluation of OER
- ❑ Motivate authors & reviewers



Conclusions

- ❑ Dominance of OER for teaching & learning English
- ❑ Most OER are parts of courses & textbooks
- ❑ Missing metadata for language skills
- ❑ Difficulty to find appropriate language OER
- ❑ Different ROER organization and metadata description of OER
- ❑ Suggestions to ROER Administrators



Thank you

Dr. Maria Perifanou & Prof. Anastasios A. Economides

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