



Social Justice and Open Pedagogy @ Montgomery College

Shinta Hernandez and Dr. Michael Mills

MC Open

The **MC Open** initiative focuses on faculty redesigning courses using Open Educational Resources (OER) to leverage pedagogy that fosters student success while reducing costs and increasing access to course materials. Montgomery College is committed to providing OER course options leading to degree completion (commonly called Z-degrees). The MC Open initiative aims to:

1. Promote student success by encouraging faculty to redesign courses using Open Educational Resources and pedagogy that engage, connect and support student learning.
2. Make education more affordable by reducing or eliminating required costs for course materials.
3. Decrease time to degree completion by giving students the option of applying money towards an additional course rather than to books or other required course materials and by providing clear paths to degree completion.



<https://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/mc-open/>

Contact Us

Shinta Hernandez, Interim Department Chair of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice
Shinta.Hernandez@montgomerycollege.edu

Dr. Michael Mills, Vice President of the Office of E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence (ELITE)
Michael.Mills@montgomerycollege.edu

Social Justice

Definition – Open access to knowledge/education for a diverse student population in which equity (i.e., fairness among diversity) is sought

MOOCs

- Get Ready for College Writing course (2013)

OER/Z-degrees

- General Studies (Fall 2017) – Achieving the Dream OER Grant
- Business (Fall 2017)
- Communications (Spring 2018)
- Criminal Justice (Spring 2018)
- Education (Spring 2018)

Z-courses

Spring 2017

- 62 Courses
- 200 Sections
- 95 different faculty
- 3400 students enrolled

Fall 2017

- 91 Courses
- 322 Sections
- 169 different faculty
- 6400+ students enrollment

Student Success (Spring 2017)

		Z Courses		All Courses	
Grades	A-B-C	78.38 %		75.5%	
		F2F 80.66%	Online 60.21 %	F2F 76.7%	Online 66.4%
Grades	D-F-W	21.32%		24.1%	

Open Pedagogy

Definition - Equity-minded teaching and learning practice that emphasizes cultural relevance, content diversity, student learning needs, and student engagement or empowerment

Renewable Assignments –

1. Recently (Fall 2017) awarded Design Open Education Group (DOER) grant by the Open Education Group to create three renewable assignments to be used in Introductory Astronomy
 - e-Portfolio documenting astronomy studies
 - Student-designed collaborative learning assignment
 - Peer professor assignment

2. Computer simulated model in BIOL 101

Students as Agency/Producers – In Introduction to Literature, students are actively involved in the production of course content

- Compilation of short anthologies
- Development of memes or photo essays
- Creation of study guides

Community Partnership Assignments – Proposed work to incorporate UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals into assignments so that students can be empowered to achieve social justice and equity by partnering with various community organizations

