

Designing PHAR681: an OER-Based Course

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

- UMES-SOP PharmD curriculum explicitly utilizes textbooks and databases-based materials: most of them are expensive.
- Textbooks lag behind the current body of knowledge irrespective of disciplines: not conducive to teaching up-to-date knowledge.
- Open Educational Recourses (OER) materials that are relevant to pharmacy education are underutilized.
- To address these, we have designed <u>a fully OER-based elective</u> <u>course</u> **PHAR 681**(*Vitamins and minerals: their involvement in* biochemical pathways and physiological implications) pilot project.
- Course content was largely adapted from the Lumen Learning OER licensed under CC BY.



References:

1) Waldum, C.; Zhao, C.-M.; Chen, D., Are current textbooks good enough for physiology education? For example, the ECL cells are missing. Advances in physiology education 2001, 25 (2), 51-54. 2) Laksmana, I.; Tietz, W., Temporal, cross-sectional, and time-lag analyses of managerial and cost accounting textbooks. Accounting Education: an international journal 2008, 17 (3), 291-312. 3) Espey, E.; Ogburn, T., Perpetuating negative attitudes about the intrauterine device: textbooks lag behind the evidence. Contraception 2002, 65 (6), 389-395. 4) Pitts, B. G.; Danylchuk, K. E., Examining the body of knowledge in sport management: A preliminary descriptive study of current sport management textbooks. Sport Management Education Journal 2007, 1 (1), 40-52



ACCOMPLISHMENTS/ LESSONS LEARNED

- Design of the syllabus has been completed (PHAR 681 represents the first OER-based pharmacy course in the curriculum): The syllabus has been approved by the UMES-SOP curriculum committee/faculty council.
- Held multiple meetings and discussions: Offered better coordination among instructors in the course design process.
- Learned a variety of restrictions (based on licensure) associated with OER materials.
- Planning in advance is crucial for a successful design of OER based courses.
- Finding appropriate OER materials for a course appeared be a challenging task.

• Since there is no additional cost associated with the design/delivery of the course, we do not expect difficulty in making this course available to students in the following years.

IMPACT (CONT.)

- Access to all materials related to the course online on day 1. - No need of a textbook(/s). - No worry about publisher-prescribed materials. -No worry about not having a new edition of textbook. Up-to--Freedom of using OER materials with CC BY designation. date -Better platform for instructors to update the content with new concepts developments. -Knowing that Vitamins and minerals will be a textbook free course, 7

students (15%) have signed up for this elective: Students are excited about this course. -A great learning opportunity for both faculty and students

FUTURE PLANS

 This course will remain a standalone OER-based course. However, we will explore opportunities to offer this course to other graduate students.

• We will seek input of a nutritionist to make this course a broadly applicable multidisciplinary course.

• The course will be offered on an annual basis in October (starting with October 2019).

• We will be sharing our experiences to audiences through seminars, meetings, and presentations within the School, University, and externally.

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