Baltimore
City
Community
College

# **ENG 101 – College Composition**

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# PROJECT BACKGROUND

- ENG 101 College Composition OER Initiative
- Course: ENG 101 College Composition
- 21 Sections offered in Fall 2018 525 students enrolled
- 19 Sections offered in Spring 2019 475 students enrolled
- 4 Sections offered in Summer 2019 100 students enrolled
- Number of sections and students impacted by OER in Fall 2018:
- 2 Sections impacted by OER in Fall 2018
- 50 Students impacted

# IMPACT (CON'T.)

- Cost has always been a factor and concern at the college, and the OER initiative has been a hot topic over the past three years.
- In my personal classrooms, OER has enabled me to offer specialized teaching lessons and modules that can tailor to individual classes or sections. Often what "works" in one class may not work in a second section or class, but once I have gathered the resources, I can utilize them in an "on demand" fashion that is very flexible and useful.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- Initially I loaded the Lumen Learning Course Cartridge directly into the Canvas course shell. Since this was the first time I had experienced and utilized the Lumen product, I simply tried a variety of approaches with my students in each section.
- The benefit of loading the entire course allowed students to print or have a hard copy of the context through Canvas.
- BCCC is currently experiencing a renaissance in OER. The
  Distance Learning Center offers an OER workshop at the end of
  each spring semester for the faculty. Each year attendance at the
  workshop has increased, and this year BCCC was received
  double the amount of MOST awards in 2019 compared with 2018.

### **LESSONS LEARNED**

- I the biggest success this project has taught me is to be open and flexible with my classroom and lesson plans. In the past I would depend on the text to drive the learning and "weekly lessons," but with the inclusion of OER, it has allowed me to see more possibilities for designing a course and a leaning plan that are adaptable for each section I teach, based on student learning styles, motivation, accessibility, and engagement.
- This grant has made me a better teacher as I can see what is working and adapt the lesson to keep students engaged and motivated.
- In addition, with the online access, copying and printing items was greatly reduced so was the old excuse, "I forgot my textbook...." I no longer need to carry extra books to class.

#### **IMPACT**

- Number of sections and students impacted by OER in Fall 2018:
- 2 Sections impacted by OER in Fall 2018
- 50 Students impacted
- Estimated cost savings per student in most recent semester \$27 For optional handbook.

# **FUTURE PLANS**

- In the future, I would preplan the modules and only include items that related directly or reinforced the work we were doing in the classroom. Additionally, I would limit the amount of quizzes or assessments in the modules since the students become more focused on these instead of the actual learning concepts and content that we are discussing in class.
- Working on this project and experience has given me a wealth of materials and time to focus on improving and continuing my OER usage. I have compiled multiple resources for each topic/section of the composition course that I teach. With the flexibility of Canvas and the classroom, I plan to refine these resources so that the lessons can entail reading and writing each time we meet.

