



# Opening PSYC 100

Creating an OER for Introduction to Psychology

ter.ps/openPSYC



**Why?** Frustrated with having to keep up with superficial changes to increasingly expensive textbooks, I could no longer justify charging students so much money to access information that I knew was freely available online. In the fall of 2010, I decided to do something about it.

**How?** I started by curating links to videos and websites that had the same content students were getting from a traditional textbook. These were provided as PDF documents to students via the course ELMS page free of charge. I wrote small sections of content to provide context and to cover whatever I could not readily find online.

**Blog?** Links die, so maintaining the PDFs was cumbersome, especially once another instructor started using a copy in his own course page. In the Fall of 2014, we transitioned to a Blogspot website and made the resource publicly available. This made it easier to maintain for us and much more user-friendly for the students.

**Who?** Since I created the initial version, Drs. Ryan Curtis and Dylan Selterman have joined me in assigning, updating, and maintaining the site. We welcome input, suggestions, and resources from anyone interested in helping to provide free, high-quality resources for psychology students.



**Mid-Semester Survey**  
PSYC 100 - Fall 2017  
N = 69 (91%)

"I would have **preferred a traditional textbook** than to use the OpenPSYC site, even if it meant I had to purchase it."

■ Strongly/Disagree ■ Neutral ■ Strongly/Agree

93%

7%

From Aug 2014 - Nov 2018,  
the blog version has had



1,080,852  
pageviews

Since 2010, the PDF and  
blog versions have benefited



7,200+  
students

With an average textbook  
costing \$150, we saved  
students an estimated

\$1 Million  
in textbook costs

