

# Open Educational Resources for Geography

## [The Nature of Geographic Information](#)

The purpose of this text is to promote understanding of the Geographic Information Science and Technology enterprise. It covers thematic maps, scales and transformations, TIGER, topology, geocoding, land surveying and GPS to name a few.

## [Sustainability: A Comprehensive Foundation](#)

An OpenStax textbook source. In *Sustainability* the range of ideas and issues reach from the depth of biological sciences to the physical sciences and to the social sciences, including politics. The seriousness of the issue of Sustainability has become increasingly important and obvious over the last fifty years driven by an increasing human population with increasing per capita resource consumption on a planet which is after all finite.

## [GIS Commons](#)

While this GIS textbook is principally an introduction to GIS, most of the chapter's concepts are applicable to other geo-technologies including remote sensing, global positioning systems (GPS), Internet mapping, and virtual globes.

## [An Introduction to Geology](#)

A full online textbook source from Salt Lake Community College. It covers minerals, plate tectonics, geologic time, deserts, coastlines, volcanoes, climate change and more.

## [Terrestrial Environments](#)

Covers content about environmental science, matter, energy, life, ecosystems, biodiversity, population ecology, water availability and use, climate change, and much more.

## [Earth Science](#)

A ck-12 resource that covers earth's minerals and rocks, surface processes, atmosphere, weather and climate, human populations and human impacts on the earth's environment.

### [Earth Science Textbook](#)

A fully comprehensive textbook that covers earth's history, earth's minerals and rocks, earth's oceans, the solar system, stars, galaxies and the universe, volcanoes, humanity's impact on the earth's resources and much more.

### [Geoscience Guides](#)

Provides guides on drawing and interpreting graphs in geosciences, guides to scientific investigation in geosciences, as well as guides to descriptive and inferential statistics in geosciences.

### [Physical Geography](#)

A fully comprehensive online textbook that gives an introduction to physical geography and explores topics ranging from the universe, plate tectonics, planet earth, tectonic forces, weathering, erosion and deposition, and more.

### [Physical Geology](#)

Physical Geology is a comprehensive introductory text on the physical aspects of geology, including rocks and minerals, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, glaciation, groundwater, streams, coasts, mass wasting, climate change, planetary geology and much more. It has a strong emphasis on examples from western Canada, especially British Columbia, and also includes a chapter devoted to the geological history of western Canada.

### [The Environment of the Earth's Surface](#)

Topics covered are production and movement of surficial materials; soils and soil erosion; precipitation; streams and lakes; groundwater flow; glaciers and their deposits. The course combines aspects of geology, climatology, hydrology, and soil science to present a coherent introduction to the surface of the Earth, with emphasis on both fundamental concepts and practical applications, as a basis for understanding and intelligent management of the Earth's physical and chemical environment. Listed as an OER resource by Northwestern Michigan College.

### [Analyzing Our World with GIS](#)

This source has thirteen chapters that cover topics such as earth's lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere, population and migration, urban and political geography, living with disasters and more.

## Other OER Resources

- *Modifying an Open Textbook: What You Need to Know*,  
<https://press.rebus.community/otnmodify>
- InfoKit on Open Educational Resources,  
<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/guides/open-educational-resources>

# Textbook Affordability Program

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## Background

In [response to student concerns](#) about the current price of course materials, SBCC has secured a grant to provide professional development opportunities and support for faculty interested in switching from high-cost, traditionally published textbooks to free or low-cost Open Educational Resources.

Please consult the [flow chart and stipend structure](#) for Open Educational Resources adoption guidelines and incentives.

## Get Help

- For questions about OER, stipends, and the SBCC Textbook Affordability Program contact program coordinator [Camerin Poulson](#)
- For assistance finding OER and supplemental library materials contact Reference Librarian [Michelle Bone](#), Instruction Coordinator Librarian [Ellen Carey](#), or [Camerin Poulson](#).
- For technical and design assistance incorporating OER into your course contact the [Faculty Resource Center](#).
- For questions about how to offer print copies of your OER through the bookstore contact [Shane Bandy](#)
- To get a print copy of your OER placed on the library reserve contact [Camerin Poulson](#).
- For questions about acquiring accessible OER materials to support students with disabilities please contact [Laurie Vasquez](#), Assistive Technologies Specialist. To understand the interaction between accessibility and OER materials please use the [accessibility checklist](#) as a guide.