

# Finding Innovative Materials

## Discipline-Specific

- ❑ **Professional Associations:** Search the associations tied to your discipline for educational materials
- ❑ **Journals:** Search the journals tied to your discipline for educational materials and the latest research
- ❑ **Documentaries and News Clips:** Recent news articles, news clips, and documentaries can bring current events and real-world context.

## Institutionally Supported

- ❑ **Course Packs:** A library can help faculty build digital course packs using chapters from e-books, specialized encyclopedias, and journal articles.
- ❑ **Integrations:** Institutions may have integrations for content such as [LinkedIn Learning](#), [Coursera](#), [edX](#), etc.

## Open Educational Resources (OER) repositories

- ❑ **LibreTexts:** Platform for creating, customizing, and sharing accessible, interactive textbooks, adaptive homework, and supplementary materials across various subjects.
- ❑ **OER Commons:** A public digital library with over 50,000 resources.
- ❑ **MERLOT (Multimedia Education Resource for Learning and Online Teaching):** Provides access to curated, online learning materials and content creation tools from an international community of educators.
- ❑ **Mason OER Metafinder (MOM):** Developed by George Mason University, this search engine simultaneously queries 21 different OER sites for content.
- ❑ **OpenStax:** A non-profit organization from Rice University that offers free, peer-reviewed college textbooks in numerous disciplines.
- ❑ **Open Textbook Library:** A collection of open textbooks across many subjects, with reviews from faculty at various colleges and universities.
- ❑ **JSTOR Open Access:** JSTOR provides free access to thousands of high-quality, open-access e-books, primarily in the humanities and social sciences.
- ❑ **MIT OpenCourseWare:** Provides materials used in almost all of MIT's more than 2,400 courses.

## Digital learning platforms and multimedia

- ❑ **TED Talks:** Curated, short talks on a wide range of subjects.
  - **TED-Ed:** The educational-specific branch of TED
- ❑ **CrashCourse:** This [YouTube channel](#) provides high-quality, free video overviews on dozens of subject areas, from world history to anatomy.
- ❑ **NPR Podcasts & Shows:** offer audio content that can add new voices and perspectives to a course.
- ❑ **Smarthistory:** An independent, non-profit resource for art history, offering free and engaging digital content with contributions from hundreds of scholars.
- ❑ **Khan Academy:** Offers instructional videos, practice exercises, and a personalized learning dashboard covering topics from math and science to art history and economics.
- ❑ **Open Culture:** Access to online courses, audio books, movies, podcasts, eBooks, etc.

## Library licensed content

- ❑ **Digital Public Library of America (DPLA):** Offers free access to millions of photographs, manuscripts, books, and other materials from archives and museums.
- ❑ **Smithsonian Libraries:** Over 35,000 digitized books and manuscripts as well as digitized photo collections.

## Interactive and gamified tools

- ❑ **Kahoot!:** Game-based learning platform that uses interactive quizzes and games to engage learners. See their [Guide to Distance and Hybrid Learning](#).
- ❑ **Quizlet:** Flexible platform for self-paced study that uses flashcards, practice tests, and games to aid memory and review.
- ❑ **PhET Interactive Simulations:** Created by the University of Colorado Boulder, these fun, research-based simulations cover science and mathematics.
- ❑ **Articulate 360:** Storyline and Rise products are consider top for creating innovative content and assessments. **Note:** not free.