



Designing Instruction for Open Sharing

Shalin Hai-Jew, editor

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Educational technology contributes to facilitating learning and promoting lifelong learning by utilizing technological resources. Accordingly, open online courses have become important because they significantly improve access to higher education; provide an affordable alternative to formal education; and offer opportunities to have a flexible learning schedule. Designing learning for open sharing is different from designing learning for closed contexts. Courses' designers consider various factors, such as intellectual property and copyrights, information architecture, learner's privacy, media, pedagogical strategies, technologies in use, individual differences, and others. They also take linguistic and cultural diversity into account. *Designing Instruction for Open Sharing* addresses these issues by providing the use of a disciplined approach to assure quality education. In this book, Hai-Jew draws on her long experience in working with, designing, and developing online learning materials. She sets out her book's framework on highlighting the history of open-shared learning online, providing the open-shared learning resources development sequence, and highlighting the dimensions and approaches of learner profiling.

This textbook includes eleven chapters organized into four parts according to the process of designing and sharing any course. Part 1, "The Open Sharing Ecosystem," introduces the topic and discusses the importance of addressing learners' needs. Part 2, "Building to Standards" explains the differences between models, frameworks, and heuristics. It also discusses some legal and ethical aspects of the online sharing process, focusing on the concepts of originality, accessibility, and factuality. Consequently, Part 3, "Design, Development, and Testing" discusses the process of designing, prototyping, and documentation and explains development-based assessment. The discourse on soft and hard launching is foregrounded in the final part, "Launching to an Open-shared Future." (A "soft launch" is the process of sharing the learning materials to a smaller target group while a "hard launch" is about reaching a wider audience, sharing to the broad general public.)

This textbook provides arguments on the intersections between theory and practice; for example, the concluding chapter discusses some prospects for open sharing. Hai-Jew proposes four possible scenarios, varying from the most optimistic (popularity of open-shared learning as the main provider of academic e-texts), to the least (commercial platforms to start charging fees for the usage of learning resources). *Designing Instruction for Open Sharing* has a few limitations. For instance, pedagogical quality receives less attention than expected. Additionally, discourse on funding open sharing and attracting financial investments is absent.

The book follows a process-based organization, from designing courses to online sharing; the reader should, therefore, follow the order. The book assumes the reader to have no specific experience, but a content-expert reader is needed to grasp the book's message. Beginners in the field might find it interesting in introducing the theory and practice of developing open-shared learning resources. Overall, *Designing Instruction for Open Sharing* is recommended as an important reference for designers and developers of open-shared learning resources.