

## WHY OPEN EDUCATION?

The benefits provided by OERs include the volume and variety of resources available, the low barrier to entry, and the ability to adapt resources for your needs. Instructors at higher education institutions from all over the world contribute to the OER movement by depositing learning objects into open repositories. The challenge, however, is avoiding duplication of resources. When creating an OER your goal should be to provide the maximum value to learners.

Below are some starting questions you should think about before undertaking your project:

- Does what you want to create already exist?
- What kind of materials are available in your discipline?
- Are there any OERs you find inspiring?
- Is there an OER you think you could improve upon?

For more information can be found at:

<http://tiny.cc/oerguide>

[albertaOER.com](http://albertaOER.com)

## UNIVERSITY CONTACTS:

### RESOURCES:

Open Education Librarian  
Michelle Brailey  
(780) 492 6745

Open Journal Hosting  
Sonja Betz  
(780) 492 1718

Digital Repository  
Leah Vanderjagt  
(780) 492 3851

### QUESTIONS:

Copyright Office  
Amanda Wakaruk  
780-248-1333

IST Helpdesk  
(780) 492 9400

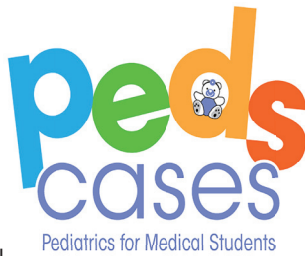
### TRAINING:

Training and Technology Centre  
(780) 492 1397



**OPEN EDUCATION**  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Our aim is to create a freely available, comprehensive pediatric resource for medical students that is driven by students for students. This includes a repository of podcasts, cases, and resources that align with the Canadian curriculum, and cover all major clinical presentations and diseases encountered in pediatrics.



Our original website was created by a medical student (using Ruby Rails) and over time a new site was built to accommodate our evolving needs. We were awarded a grant to help fund the new site. Members of our team are able to modify and update the site, and we apply for grants on an ad hoc basis to support larger upgrades.

PedsCases is shared through the UofA medical school, and medical schools across Canada, we utilize various social media channels to advertise new material. Over the past few years we have developed partnerships with the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) and the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS).

PedsCases.com  
 pjgill@ualberta.ca

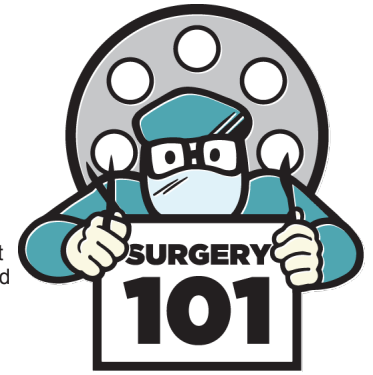
OpenPhys was developed using an open source web-based platform ('OpenMap') and website ('OpenPhys') to present interactive self-guided multi-level learning resources. Content is designed for viewing on any device (phone, tablet, laptop) using mobile web technologies.



The first OpenMap site is 'OpenPhys'. This makes use of text, images, graphics, equations and interactive animations to present a series of radiation physics concepts. Web software and device graphic display capabilities have advanced sufficiently that quite complex simulations are feasible on the mobile web platform. In atomic and nuclear physics, many key physical processes, such as radioactivity and X-ray interactions, are invisible and physically hazardous, rendering hands-on experimental interaction difficult, and interactive simulations particularly useful. The OpenPhys website currently contains lessons such as: The electronic structure of the atom, Radioactivity; Compton X-ray Scattering, and the Photo-electric effect.

<http://tiny.cc/OpenPhys>  
 jcsharp@ualberta.ca

Initially created for Medical Students at the University of Alberta the first podcasts were placed on iTunes we started noticing people worldwide downloading them and requesting episodes. We've just grown from there and now have podcasts, videos, and virtual patients shared on iTunes, YouTube, Libsyn, our website and our App.



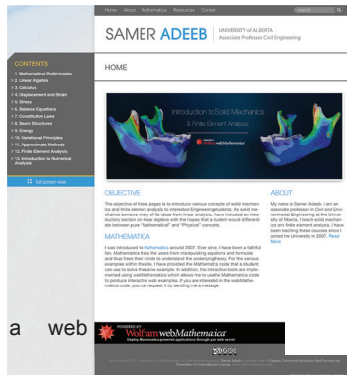
We now release a new episode every wednesday and our podcasts and videos have been downloaded over 3.5 million times in over 120 countries worldwide and are available to anyone with an internet connection.

All of our material is licensed under the Creative Commons license Attribution-ShareAlike. This allowing others to remix, tweak, and build upon your work as they see fit.

Surgery101.org  
 surgerypodcast@gmail.com

## Solid Mechanics and Finite Element Analysis

We opted to make an open educational resource for a variety of reasons including that it was free for students, provided instantaneous updates, and has the ability for students to make comments on it.



We had a web developer create our website using WordPress with Latex for WordPress and WebMathmatica. the website is hosted on the UofA server. After many hours of editing we are very happy with the final product.

sameradeeb.srv.ualberta.ca  
 adeeb@ualberta.ca

## LIS 598 Information Policy

Winter 2017 was the first offering of LIS 598 Information Policy online, at that time the course was also made open. The process of opening up the course involved formatting the lectures into video (.wmv) and powerpoint with audio (.pptx) and putting them into UofA's media streaming repository (ERA). The files were also made into PowerPoint without audio and individual audio files were created for each slide.

To enhance access to the lecture materials, lectures were also made available in the ERA A/V service from University of Alberta Libraries

All of the lectures made use of either Creative Commons Attribution or Public Domain materials, and the final lectures themselves were licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 (CC-BY-4.0) license to allow others to adopt and reuse the lecture materials as they see fit.

By providing lectures in a variety of open formats and access points the content from the course is available to students or lifelong learners anywhere with internet access.

<http://tiny.cc/lis598>  
 mcmnally@ualberta.ca

## GET INVOLVED IN OPEN EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Join the UofA OER Interest Group List:  
[openeducation@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:openeducation@mailman.srv.ualberta.ca)

Join the Alberta OER Community of Practice:  
[albertaer@googlegroups.com](mailto:albertaer@googlegroups.com)

LiveStream or attend Alberta OER Summit  
 May 11, 2017:  
<https://goo.gl/OUAhyq>