



Faculty of Medical Sciences
University of Sri Jayewardenepura



Policy Title: Policy on the use of Open Educational Resources

Policy Number: 05

Functional Area: Academic

Effective and Revised Dates: 30/06/2022

Approving Authority: The Council, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Administrative Responsibility: Dean of Faculty, Heads of Departments, Director, Examination Unit, Deputy Registrar/Senior Assistant Registrar, Librarian/Assistant librarian, Coordinator – IT Unit

Rationale and Purpose:

Open educational resources (OER) are freely accessible, openly licensed text, media, and other digital assets that are useful for teaching, learning, and assessing as well as for research purposes. Although, development and promotion of OER accounted for the motivation and desire to provide an alternate or enhanced educational resources, usefulness of them has been recognized by the academia especially in open and distance (online) learning environment.

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ) recognizes the importance of production and use and the OER for both educational and research purposes in the document of Policy of Teaching and Learning (no 17) stating that the use of open education resources is through accelerated open licensing and the sharing of higher education resources obtained via appropriate national or university open licensing framework is encouraged. Moreover, this policy is in conformity with other relevant policies such as Policy on Academic Honesty and Integrity, Policy on Programme/ Curricular Designing, Policy on Examination and Policy on Information and Policy on Web Content Management etc (not inclusive of).

The policy on the use of Open Educational Resources is devised to provide a framework for both academic staff and students to develop, modify, publish, and use (learning and assessments) the OER pertaining to university activities.

Scope:

This policy is applicable for both staff members and students of the Faculty

Policy Statement:

1. All academics and students engaged in education and research at the Faculty will have an opportunity to develop, modify, publish, and use (learning and assessments) the OER pertaining to university activities.
2. The Faculty is committed to foster the active engagement of both staff and the students to be involved in improving Learning/Teaching and Assessments with the use of OER
3. The Faculty recognizes the achievements of educational goals by both academics and students with the development/use of OER.
4. The Faculty also recognizes that all students should have an equal opportunity to access and use of OER regardless of the level of the study programme, gender, religion or any other inability (physical, psychological, financial, social, literal etc).
5. The Faculty further recognizes that although both staff and students should enjoy full benefits of OER, they should not get penalized based on the disadvantages specially, quality/reliability, limitations of copyright protection or any other technological issues.
6. The Faculty provide facilities for students to develop their skills in self-regulated learning thus to become more independent learner through by using OER both within and outside their core program of study.
7. The staff and students are well informed about the place of OER in the Faculty.
8. The Faculty encourages the all stakeholders to provide regular feedback on the use of OER in L/T activities for quality improvement.

Framework for the use of Open Educational Resources:

1. Academics and Researchers of the Faculty should take part actively to search, recommend and monitor the available OER as suitable for the students
2. Academics and Researchers of the Faculty should take part actively to develop or make necessary modifications to the OER as suitable for students to use.
3. The Centre for Quality Assurance (CQA) will provide oversight in monitoring of the OER activities of University. Faculty Quality Assurance Cells (IQACs) will liaise with CQA in order to monitor the use of OER at the Faculty level.

Related policies and guidelines:

Policy on teaching and learning

Policy on Academic Honesty and Integrity,

Policy on Programme / Curricular Designing,

Policy on Examination

Policy on Information and Policy on Web Content Management

Policy on Program/curricular approval, Implementation, Monitoring, Review