

Open Access Publications

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Learning Outcomes

After attending this lecture the learner will be able to;

- Enlist various Open Access Publications
- Determine the policies of selected journal for publication
- Select a suitable Open Access Journal/ Book for publication
- To conduct efficient literature search

Definition

- Open access publication refers to the practice of making scholarly research and literature freely available online to anyone, without paywalls or subscription fees.
- Lots of connotations of open access initiatives.

Benefits of Open Access

Increased Accessibility: OA publications are freely available online, removing barriers to access for researchers, students, and the general public. This can lead to greater dissemination and impact of research.

Accelerated Discovery: OA can accelerate the pace of discovery by allowing researchers to access and build upon the latest research findings without restrictions.

Enhanced Visibility and Impact: OA publications are often more widely read and cited than those behind paywalls, leading to increased visibility and impact for authors.

Promotion of Innovation: OA encourages collaboration and the sharing of ideas, which can lead to new innovations and advancements in research.

Cost-Effectiveness: While there may be costs associated with publishing in OA journals, these are often lower than traditional publishing models, making it more cost-effective for researchers and institutions.

Compliance with Funding Mandates: Many funding agencies require that research findings be made openly accessible, making OA a necessary choice for researchers to comply with these mandates.

Ethical Considerations: OA aligns with the principle of making research findings available to the public, which can be seen as ethically responsible, especially for publicly funded research.

Timeline of Open Access

- **1990s:** The internet began to gain popularity, leading to discussions about the potential for online publishing to make research more accessible. The term "Open Access" started to be used to describe the idea of freely accessible literature.
- **2001:** The **Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI)** was launched, defining OA as "free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles." BOAI played a significant role in shaping the OA movement.
- **2003:** The **Bethesda Statement** on Open Access Publishing was released, supporting BOAI's definition and principles. This further solidified the concept of OA in the academic community.

- **2003-2008:** Several major initiatives and organizations promoting OA were established, including the **Public Library of Science (PLOS)**, **BioMed Central**, and the **Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)**.
- **2008: The Berlin Declaration** on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities was issued, calling for the promotion of OA to scholarly research. The declaration has been signed by numerous institutions and organizations worldwide.
- **2010s-present:** The OA movement continued to grow, with more journals adopting OA models and funding agencies implementing OA mandates. Many universities and research institutions also established OA repositories to make research outputs openly accessible.

- **Expansion of OA Journals:** The number of OA journals continued to grow, with many publishers launching OA options for their journals or converting existing journals to OA. This expansion increased the availability of OA publishing options across disciplines.
- **Funding Agency Mandates:** Funding agencies around the world increasingly adopted OA mandates, requiring that research funded by their grants be made openly accessible. For example, in 2013, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) issued a memorandum directing federal agencies with R&D budgets to develop plans for public access to research results.
- **Institutional Repositories:** Universities and research institutions expanded their efforts to establish and promote institutional repositories for the storage and dissemination of research outputs, including preprints, data sets, and published articles.

- **Preprint Servers:** Preprint servers, such as arXiv and bioRxiv, gained popularity across disciplines, allowing researchers to share early versions of their research papers before formal peer review. Preprints have become an important part of the scholarly communication landscape, particularly in fields like physics, mathematics, and biology.
- **Open Access Policies:** Many universities and research institutions implemented their own OA policies, requiring faculty members to make their research outputs openly accessible. These policies often complemented funding agency mandates and helped increase the visibility and impact of institutional research.
- **Global Adoption:** The OA movement gained traction globally, with many countries and regions implementing policies and initiatives to promote OA publishing. For example, in 2017, the European Union launched Plan S, an initiative to make research funded by public grants openly accessible by 2020.
- **Challenges and Debates:** Despite its growth, the OA movement faced challenges and debates, including concerns about the sustainability of OA publishing models, the quality and peer review of OA journals, and the impact of OA on traditional publishing practices.

Categorization

- On the basis of Cost of Publication
 - Gold
 - Diamond
- On the basis of Copy Right
 - Gratis
 - Libre
- Green Open Access

Gold Open Access

- This refers to the practice of publishing research articles in an open access journal, where the author pays a fee (called an **Article Processing Charge**) to cover the costs of publication.
- Gold open access journals are typically peer-reviewed and provide immediate and free access to their content.
 - 1. PLOS One 2. BMC Biology 3. The Journal of Open Access 4. Journal of Medical Internet Research 5. International Journal of Molecular Sciences 6. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 7. BMC Medicine 8. Earth and Space Science 9. Scientific Reports

Diamond Open Access

- This refers to the practice of making research articles freely available online without charging authors any fees for publishing.
- Diamond open access journals are often run by academic societies or research institutions and do not require the payment of article processing charges.
- 1. BMC Public Health 2. BMC Veterinary Research 3. BMC Genetics

Gratis Open Access

- This refers to the free availability of research articles online, without payment required from the reader.
- Gratis open access does not necessarily mean that the content is freely reusable or shareable, and may be subject to copyright restrictions.
- Most of the open Access Journals come under this category.

Libre Open Access

- This refers to the free availability of research articles online, along with the freedom to use, reuse, and redistribute the content in any format or medium.
- Libre open access content is typically published under a Creative Commons or other open license.
- Sites such as Khan Academy, OpenStax, and the OpenCourseWare
- World Bank Open Data, and Data.gov

Green Open Access

- This refers to the practice of authors self-archiving their published research articles in an online repository or institutional repository that is freely accessible to the public.
- This type of open access does not require any payment from the authors or readers.
- Example: ResearchGate, Academia


Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

- Unique and extensive index of diverse open access journals from around the world, driven by a growing community, committed to ensuring quality content is freely available online for everyone.
- **OPEN** - DOAJ is a vital part of the global open access infrastructure.
- **GLOBAL** – DOAJ is a global community, with [team members](#), [ambassadors](#) and [volunteers](#) based in 45 countries around the world, speaking 36 languages.
- **TRUSTED** – Globally DOAJ's [standards](#) have become a gold standard for open access publishing.
- <https://doaj.org/>

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Opening Scholarly Communication in the Social Sciences (OSCOSS)

- It is a Social Science initiative, that aims to increase open communication in all steps of the publishing process.
- OSCOSS is funded by the Deutsche Forschungs Gemeinschaft (DFG) and aims to integrate existing data and publication management services into a web-based collaborative writing environment that publishers can set up to support authors, reviewers and readers throughout the publication process.

Open Library Of Humanities (OLH)

- The open library of humanities (OLH) is a non-profit OA publisher for the humanities dedicated to publishing open access scholarships with no author-facing article processing charges (APCs).
- They are funded by an international consortium of libraries that are supporting OLH's mission to make fairer and more accessible scholarly publishing for the digital future.
- <https://www.openlibhums.org/>



THE LOWER DECKS:

A SYMPOSIUM ON JANEWAY AND OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

The Lower Decks: A Symposium on Janeway and Open Access Publishing

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Featured Journals

<https://www.openlibhums.org/news/618/>

Directory of Open Access book

- This is a source where **10650** academic books from **254** publishers are indexed as of September 2022.
- <https://www.doabooks.org/>
- The primary aim of DOAB is to increase discoverability of open access books. Academic publishers are invited to provide metadata of their open access books to DOAB.
- DOAB is an open infrastructure committed to open science. It runs on the open source [DSpace 6](#) platform.
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- Social Science Open Access Repository SSOAR is an Institutional Or Discipline Specific Repository that is available to researchers from the Social Sciences.
- <https://www.gesis.org/en/ssoar/home>

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Zenodo

- CERN, an OpenAIRE partner and pioneer in open source, open access and open data, provided this capability and Zenodo was launched in May 2013.
- In support of its research program, CERN has developed tools for **Big Data management** and extended **Digital Library capabilities** for Open Data.
- Through Zenodo these Big Science tools could be effectively shared with the long-tail of research.
- <https://zenodo.org/>



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Recent uploads

February 19, 2023 (v154) Dataset [Open Access](#)

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A large-scale COVID-19 Twitter chatter dataset for open scientific research - an international collaboration

[Banda, Juan M.](#); [Tekumalla, Ramya](#); Wang, Guanyu; Yu, Jingyuan; Liu, Tuo; Ding, Yuning; Artemova, Katya; Tutubalina, Elena; [Chowell, Gerardo](#)

Version 154 of the dataset. FUTURE CHANGES: Due to the imminent paywalling of Twitter's API access this might be the last full update of this dataset. If the API access is not blocked, we will be stopping updates for this dataset with release 156 - a full 3 years after our initial release. It's...

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Zenodo prioritizes all requested related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

We can help with:

- Uploading your research data, software, preprints, etc.
- One-on-one with Zenodo supporters.
- Quota increases beyond our default policy.
- Scripts for automated uploading of larger datasets.

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Other Important Sources

- The directory of open access repositories
- Connecting repositories
- Open access thesis and dissertation
- BASE
- Registry of open access repository
- Online library and publication platform (OAPEN)

The OAPEN library holds freely accessible academic books, focusing on humanities and social sciences.