Table of Contents

Application Summary

Competition Details

Competition Title:	Textbook Transformation Grants, Round Fourteen (2019-2020)
Category:	University System of Georgia
Award Cycle:	Round 14
Submission Deadline:	04/09/2019 at 11:59 PM

Application Information

Submitted By:	Tiffani Reardon
Appplication ID:	3357
Application Title:	443
Date Submitted:	04/09/2019 at 8:22 AM

Personal Details

Institution Name(s):	Kennesaw State University
Applicant First Name:	Tiffani
Applicant Last Name:	Reardon
Applicant Email Address:	treardo2@kennesaw.edu
Applicant Phone Number:	4705787923
Primary Appointment Title:	Instructional Designer
Submitter First Name:	Tiffani
Submitter Last Name:	Reardon
Submitter Email Address:	treardo2@kennesaw.edu
Submitter Phone Number:	4705787923
Submitter Title:	Proposal Investigator

Application Details

Proposal Title

443

Final Semester of Project

Spring 2020

Requested Amount of Funding

10,800

Type of Grant

Specific Core Curriculum Courses

Course Title(s)
World Literature

Course Number(s)
ENGL 2110

Team Member 1 Name
Tiffani Reardon

Team Member 1 Email
treardo2@kennesaw.edu

Team Member 2 Name
Kristin Rajan

Team Member 2 Email
krajan@kennesaw.edu

Team Member 3 Name
JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp

Team Member 3 Email
jloverde@kennesaw.edu

Team Member 4 Name

Team Member 4 Email

Additional Team Members (Name and email address for each)

Sponsor Name
Sheila Smith McCoy

Sponsor Title
Chair of the Department of English

Sponsor Department
Department of English

Original Required Commercial Materials (title, author, price)
 The Norton Anthology of World Literature (https://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294997390)

Average Number of Students per Course Section Affected by Project in One Academic Year
25

Average Number of Sections Affected by Project in One Academic Year
8

Total Number of Students Affected by Project in One Academic Year
200

Average Number of Students Affected per Summer Semester
0

Average Number of Students Affected per Fall Semester
100

Average Number of Students Affected per Spring Semester
100

Original Total Cost per Student
$67.50

Post-Project Cost per Student
$0

Post-Project Savings per Student
$67.50

Projected Total Annual Student Savings per Academic Year
$13,500

Using OpenStax Textbook?
No

Project Goals

The proposed project involves replacing the anthologies used in English 2110: World Literature with online texts using open educational resources (OER). English 2110 is an option as a core requirement under Area C: Humanities and Fine Arts. The Norton Anthology of World Literature, the text used for English 2110: World Literature at Kennesaw State University, is in its most recent 4th edition: a thick 2-volume collection which costs $67.50. During a semester, a 2110 class is lucky to cover 25% of what the two volumes include. Replacing the anthology with open online links will ensure that students don't have to purchase a textbook with material that's not being used in the classroom. Using OER will not only save students money and free up backpack space, but will also allow professors to create reading lists reflective of their pedagogies and will ultimately inspire students to become more engaged, making their own connections in literature.

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In order to achieve this goal, we will fulfill the following objectives

- Evaluate OER that coincide with departmental and institutional standards
- Select appropriate OER to help students meet course and module goals in accordance with KSU course quality standards
- Select OER which reflect an array of cultural diversity
- Adopt OER and transform courses to incorporate them in place of the Norton Anthology
- Develop supplemental materials (lectures, videos, quizzes, music, historical backgrounds) which complement the OER readings
- Gather all resources adopted and created into a website for sharing with other KSU faculty and faculty outside KSU
- Encourage faculty at KSU and other institutions to adopt this approach in face-to-face, hybrid, and online courses

As a result of choosing works which reflect our individual approaches to literature and about which we are excited to teach, English 2110 classes will be more engaging and stimulating, promoting increased student retention, progression, graduation rates, and possibly even a deeper love of literature.

Statement of Transformation

We will be replacing the expensive 2-volume anthology currently used in most ENGL 2110: World Literature courses with OER materials. Whereas anthologies change annually, professors can establish continuity with OER. Online links will also allow literature classes to reflect the themes and literary perspectives of professors, who can choose works that will excite students about literature and its applicability to their lives. It is possible that the freedom to design courses to reflect this individual creativity will even promote the value of literature as a core requirement.

A deeper exploration into individual artists is available with online resources, as well as a smoother integration of supplementary material—online lectures, videos, and historical contexts.

An initial exploration into the possibilities available for this transformation are:

- A compact World Literature text available through University of North Georgia: https://ung.edu/university-press/books/compact-anthology-world-literature.php
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- Free internet sources for reading and writing: https://haywood.libguides.com/c.php?g=146425&p=961064
- A sampling of sites devoted to particular artists' works:
  Walt Whitman: https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1891/poems/27
  Maya Angelou: https://www.poemhunter.com/maya-angelou/

Transformation Action Plan

Kickoff Training

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will attend the required kick-off training/implementation meeting on May 20, 2019.

Status Reports/Final Report

Reardon will submit one status report as required by ALG at the end of summer 2019 and fall 2019; she will submit the final report as required by ALG at the end of spring 2020.

Content Selection

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will adopt and/or adapt OER and/or materials available through Galileo to replace textbooks currently used in World Literature online, hybrid, and face-to-face courses. Major tasks to complete in this phase include evaluating and selecting material to adopt/adapt and identifying new materials that need to be created.

Course Development

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will develop their World Literature courses to replace the Norton Anthology with the identified and/or created OER.

Implementation

Rajan will teach her transformed World Literature course during fall 2019; LoVerde-Dropp will teach her transformed World Literature course during spring 2020. At the beginning of each semester, Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will provide each student with a syllabus that lists required course materials. As the course progresses, team members will make required OER and other course materials easily available to all students.

Publication

Reardon will put all course materials into accessible formats, create a landing page using SoftChalk, and publish the page to KSU's OER website. In addition, Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will maintain a D2L section that other KSU faculty can import into their courses should they choose to adopt our OER course.

Evaluation

Reardon will develop a survey and submit it to IRB for approval. During fall 2019 and spring 2020, Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp (respectively) will survey their students in the pilot courses. The survey will ask students to evaluate their learning materials for the following:

- Cost effectiveness
- Ease of use
- Educational value
- Skill development
- Clarity
- Currency

Reardon will compile the survey results for the final report.

Information Sharing

Reardon, Rajan, and LoVerde-Dropp will be available to share their experiences adopting, adapting, and creating open, free, and affordable learning materials with ALG and the KSU English department.

Revisions and Updates

As needed, Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will alter and improve the transformed courses, and they will continue to do so as long as they are assigned to teach those courses. The team understands that the grant ends in spring 2020, but it is a part of the discipline as well as our teaching strategy to use an iterative process for evaluating teaching materials and course designs and to revise them in order to improve student outcomes. For this reason, the team will continue to evaluate and improve their teaching materials even after the grant ends.

Quantitative & Qualitative Measures

The transformation process can be evaluated according to several metrics:

- Student textbook/material use rates: the Norton Anthology costs $67.50; we suspect that a significant number of students would attempt to get by without purchasing the anthology. We will survey students and determine how many students used the free, online materials compared to the number who would have purchased the anthology.
- Student success and retention rates: given the research data that supports the role of OER improving student success and retention, we suspect that we will see an increase in student success and retention in the courses with OER. Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will keep a record of average grades and DFW rates in their past courses for baselines to compare to data from their pilot OER courses.
- Student satisfaction: the team will seek IRB approval to survey students regarding elements of student satisfaction with the OER with regards to ease of use, accessibility, and helpfulness in achieving learning objectives. The survey will also seek qualitative student feedback and suggestions for improvement.

The team will require IRB approval for student surveys. Reardon is familiar with the process at KSU and will comply for this project.

Timeline

May 20, 2019

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will attend the kick-off meeting in Macon.

June 1, 2019

Reardon will start developing the student survey.

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will begin evaluating OER for appropriateness and usefulness in their courses.

July 1, 2019

Reardon will submit the student survey for IRB approval by this date.

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will have identified appropriate OER for their courses by this date.

Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp will begin developing their courses to replace the anthology with the OER.

August 1, 2019

Reardon will submit the summer status report.

Rajan will submit her pilot course for her World Literature using OER to Reardon for a KSU course quality evaluation.

Rajan will launch the pilot course for fall semester.

Reardon will begin developing the website for hosting the OER.
November 1, 2019

Rajan will survey her pilot students.

December 1, 2019

Reardon will submit the spring semester status report.

January 1, 2020

Rajan will submit her DFW rates from fall 2019 and one previous semester for comparison to Reardon.

LoVerde-Dropp will submit her pilot course for her World Literature using OER to Reardon for a KSU course quality evaluation.

LoVerde-Dropp will launch the pilot course for spring semester.

April 1, 2020

LoVerde-Dropp will survey her pilot students.

May 1, 2020

Reardon will post the website to KSU's OER website.

Reardon will begin drafting final report.

May 15, 2020

LoVerde-Dropp will submit her DFW rates from spring 2020 and one previous semester for comparison to Reardon.

Reardon will complete and submit the final report.

Budget

*Travel funding for Reardon - $2,000
Compensation for Rajan - $4,000
Compensation for LoVerde-Dropp - $4,000
Travel for Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp to attend Macon kick-off - $800
Total - $10,800

*Kennesaw State University does not allow staff members at KSU to earn additional compensation for work on grants anymore. However, as ALG and KSU value the input of an instructional designer and OER expert such as Reardon, instructional designers continue to work on these grants with the promise of professional development. Reardon uses this professional development funding to attend conferences that are either directly related to open pedagogy and open educational resources OR she uses them to attend technology-enhanced learning conferences to present on the OER initiatives at KSU.

Sustainability Plan

ENGL 2110 is a general education course at KSU. On average, KSU offers approximately 150 sections of ENGL 2110 per year. Our project will affect a small number of those sections each year, but the goal is to use our sections as a pilot program for getting our OER solutions recognized at KSU as an option for World Literature courses, which would increase the use and impact tremendously.

As needed, we will alter and improve our transformed courses and materials, and we will continue to do so as long as we are assigned to teach these courses. We understand that the grant ends in spring 2020, but it is a part of our discipline as well as our teaching strategy to use an iterative process for evaluating our teaching materials and course designs and to revise them in order to improve student outcomes. For this reason, we

Acknowledgment

Grant Acceptance

[Acknowledged] I understand and acknowledge that acceptance of Affordable Learning Georgia grant funding constitutes a commitment to comply with the required activities listed in the RFP and that my submitted proposal will serve as the statement of work that must be completed by my project team. I further understand and acknowledge that failure to complete the deliverables in the statement of work may result in termination of the agreement and funding.

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

March 28, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Affordable Learning Grant Textbook Transformation application developed by Tiffani Reardon, Dr. Rajan, and JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp. A separate letter of support is being provided to you by Dr. Sheila Smith McKoy, Chair of the Department of English.

This is an important innovation that will benefit students and faculty. Thankyiou very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kerwin Swint

Kerwin Swint, Ph.D.

Interim Dean

March 28, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of the application for an Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation grant put forward by Tiffani Reardon, Dr. Kristin Rajan, and JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp. Their proposal to transform their ENGL 2110: World Literature courses with the use of Open Educational Resources will provide an important innovation for our students and teachers in our ENGL 2110 classes.

If funded, this grant will enable the above team to create a transformation plan that can be drawn on by students and teachers in all general education courses in literature. Most students in these courses are asked to purchase an anthology and, at times, a second book. Professors who do not require a purchased anthology often require at least three scripts or novels. This new open approach will enable the students who take these courses to avoid costs that can range from $63-$100 for the most commonly required anthology. Since the open resources will exist online, it will provide dynamic features not available in a traditional textbook. In addition, these open resources will be sustainable indefinitely. Revisions to the resources will not require a new edition (and a new expense for students) but rather revisions of the existing online resources. General Education literature courses are a win-win for the well-rounded undergraduate student now further rewarded with resources they can return to well beyond the end of the semester.

Should this grant be funded, it will be of tremendous benefit to our students economically and intellectually. The impact of this work cannot be overstated. The faculty submitting this grant have in-depth experience teaching ENGL 2110 classes in multiple formats and an instructional designer with the most current knowledge of interactive software. This team has the ability and the experience to bring this project to fruition, and to do it well.

I support this application without reservation and hope that the committee will review the proposal favorably. Should you have any questions as you review their application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sheila Smith-McKoy, PhD Professor and Chair

English Building • Room 155 • MD 2701. • 440 Bartow Ave. • Kennesaw, GA 30144-5591 Phone: 470-578-6297 • Fax: 470-578-9057 • www.kennesaw.edu

Textbook Transformation Grants, Round Fourteen
(Summer 2019 –Summer 2020)
Proposal Form and Narrative

Notes

- The proposal form and narrative .docx file is for offline drafting and review. Submitters must use the InfoReady Review online form for proposal submission.
- The only way to submit the official proposal is through the online form in Georgia Tech's InfoReady Review. The link to the online application is on the Round 14 RFP Page.
- The italic text we provide is meant for clarifications and can be deleted.

Applicant, Team, and Sponsor Information

The **applicant** is the proposed Project Lead for the grant project. The **submitter** is the person submitting the application (which may be a Grants Officer or Administrator). The submitter will often be the applicant – if so, leave the submitter fields blank.

Institution(s)	Kennesaw State University
Applicant Name	Tiffani Reardon
Applicant Email	treardo2@kennesaw.edu
Applicant Phone #	470-578-7923
Applicant Position/Title	Instructional Designer
Submitter Name	Tiffani Reardon
Submitter Email	treardo2@kennesaw.edu
Submitter Phone #	470-578-7923
Submitter Position	Principle Investigator

Please provide the first/last names and email addresses of all team members within the proposed project. Include the applicant (Project Lead) in this list. Do not include prefixes or suffixes such as Ms., Dr., Ph.D., etc.

	Name	Email Address
Team Member 1	Tiffani Reardon	treardo2@kennesaw.edu
Team Member 2	Kristin Rajan	krajan@kennesaw.edu

	Name	Email Address
Team Member 3	JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp	jloverde@kennesaw.edu

Please provide the sponsor's name, title, department, and institution. The sponsor is the provider of your Letter of Support.

Sheila Smith McCoy, Department Chair for the Department of English, Kennesaw State University

Kerwin Swint, Interim Dean for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Kennesaw State University

Project Information and Impact Data

Title of Grant Project	Transforming World Literature Courses for a More Affordable Learning Experience
Type of Grant	Specific Core Curriculum Courses
Requested Amount of Funding	$10,800
Course Names and Course Numbers	ENGL 2110: World Literature
Final Semester of Project	Rajan: Fall 2019 LoVerde-Dropp: Spring 2020
Average Number of Students Per Course Section Affected by Project	25
Average Number of Sections Affected by Project in One Academic Year	8
Total Number of Students Affected by	200

Project in One Academic Year	
Average Number of Students Affected per Summer Semester	0
Average Number of Students Affected per Fall Semester	100
Average Number of Students Affected per Spring Semester	100
Title/Author of Original Required Materials	*The Norton Anthology of World Literature* (https://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294997390)
Original Total Cost Per Student	$67.50
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Narrative Section

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- Free internet sources for reading and writing: https://haywood.libguides.com/c.php?g=146425&p=961064
- A sampling of sites devoted to particular artists' works:
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    - Maya Angelou: https://www.poemhunter.com/maya-angelou/

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Rajan will launch the pilot course for fall semester.

Reardon will begin developing the website for hosting the OER.

November 1, 2019

Rajan will survey her pilot students.

December 1, 2019

Reardon will submit the spring semester status report.

January 1, 2020

Rajan will submit her DFW rates from fall 2019 and one previous semester for comparison to Reardon.

LoVerde-Dropp will submit her pilot course for her World Literature using OER to Reardon for a KSU course quality evaluation.

LoVerde-Dropp will launch the pilot course for spring semester.

April 1, 2020

LoVerde-Dropp will survey her pilot students.

May 1, 2020

Reardon will post the website to KSU's OER website.

Reardon will begin drafting final report.

May 15, 2020

LoVerde-Dropp will submit her DFW rates from spring 2020 and one previous semester for comparison to Reardon.

Reardon will complete and submit the final report.

6. Budget
*Travel funding for Reardon - $2,000

Compensation for Rajan - $4,000

Compensation for LoVerde-Dropp - $4,000

Travel for Rajan and LoVerde-Dropp to attend Macon kick-off - $800

Total - $10,800

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7. Sustainability Plan
Textbook Transformation Grants should have a lasting impact on the course for years to come. In order for this to happen, a Sustainability Plan needs to be in place after the end of the project. Please include here your plans for offering the course in the future, including:

- *The maintenance and updating of course materials*
- *Any possible expansion of the project to more course sections in the future*
- *Future plans for sharing this work with others through presentations, articles, or other scholarly activities*

ENGL 2110 is a general education course at KSU. On average, KSU offers approximately 150 sections of ENGL 2110 per year. Our project will affect a small number of those sections each year, but the goal is to use our sections as a pilot program for getting our OER solutions recognized at KSU as an option for World Literature courses, which would increase the use and impact tremendously.

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