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20 November 2020

## Recommended Open Educational Resources (OERs) for First-Year Composition (English, Writing) Courses

1. Glynn, Alexandra, Kelli Hallsten Erickson, and Amy Jo Swing. *You, Writing! A Guide to College Composition*. Opendora  
<https://opendora.minnstate.edu/islandora/object/MINNSTATErepository%3A348>

*You, Writing!* is an easy substitute for other first-year composition textbooks. Chapters explore the writing process in a logical order, starting with an overview of the writing process. Then chapters provide in-depth information on each step of the writing process, from finding audience, purpose, and topics; to developing a thesis and paragraphs that support it; to creating a first draft; then revising, editing, and proofreading. The text ends by reviewing research essay skills including creating citations in APA and MLA. This structure lets faculty assign sections as students need to apply the information to complete essays.

Better than many textbooks, *You, Writing!* is conversational and easy to read. If the authors use a big word, they define it and use it again. If the authors explain a technique, they slow down and break the technique into smaller components so students can see how the bigger ideas—for example, developing, narrowing, and applying a thesis—work. The text includes an appendix that defines common in first-year composition courses.

*You, Writing!* helps students meet composition course goals by showing writing as a process; helping students engage in academic discourse; helping students use standard English and thesis driven arguments; helping students find purpose, audience, and style; helping students incorporate sources; and helping students write argumentative and documented essays.

As a final benefit, *You, Writing!* is a .pdf. Students could download the text, keep it as a file on their computers, and not need to access the internet to read the text.

*You, Writing!* is licensed as CC BY-NC-SA 4.0

2. Stedman, Kyle D. “Annoying Ways People Use Sources.” *Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing, Volume 1*, ed. Charles Lowe and Pavel Zemliansky. WAC Clearinghouse, <https://wac.colostate.edu/docs/books/writingspaces2/stedman--annoying-ways.pdf> Accessed 11 Nov. 2020

“Annoying Ways People Use Sources” is a short, engaging article meant to expand first-year composition students’ understanding of how to incorporate source material in their

writing. The article uses an extended metaphor to compare poor driving to poor use of source materials. Common attribution errors are explored, and each source use error is introduced as “The Annoyance” and resolved in “The Fix.” The article ends with three Discussion Questions for instructors to check student comprehension.

“Annoying Ways” helps students meet writing course goals by helping students engage in academic discourse and incorporate sources.

“Annoying Ways People Use Sources” is licensed as a CC NC-SA 3.0 and is subject to the Writing Spaces’ Terms of Use, available at <http://writingspaces.org/terms-of-use>