

open  
education  
conference

24

it's about  
TIME

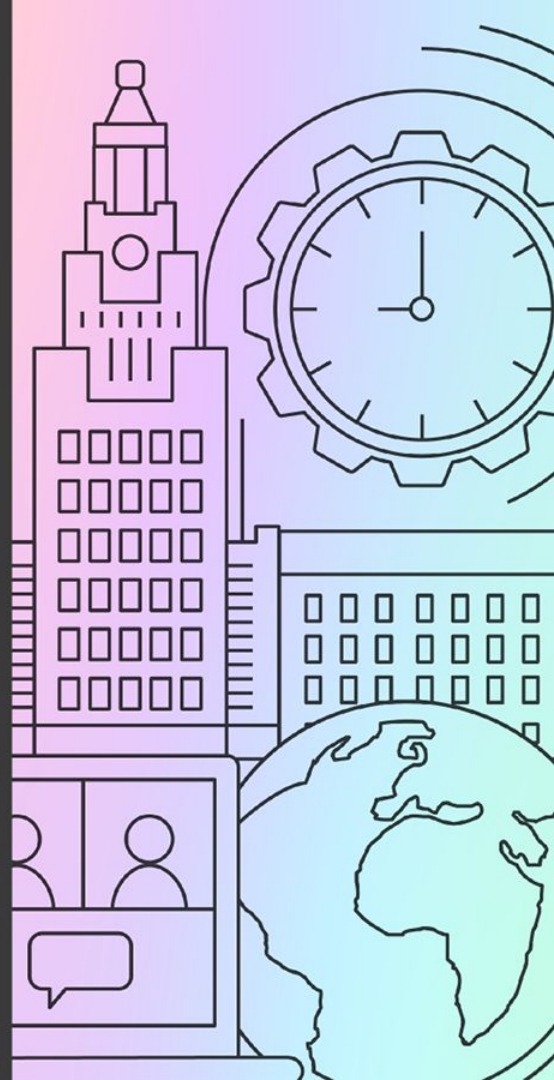
OCT 8-10 — PROVIDENCE, RI & ONLINE

# Opening Assessment in Problem-Based Courses: A WeBWorK Pilot Case Study

PRESENTATION



Anita Walz, University Libraries at Virginia Tech  
Heath Hart, Dept of Mathematics, Virginia Tech





**Anita Walz**

Associate Professor, University Libraries  
Assistant Director of Open Education



**Heath David Hart, CPWA**

Senior Instructor, Mathematics





- What matters about homework software
- Open-source homework software
- Structuring a homework software replacement pilot program & results
- WeBWorK demo
- Hearing from Heath
- Discussion



1) What is the difference between a jungle and a rain forest?

- a) No difference. Simply two different ways in referring to the same thing.
- b) A jungle in general receives less rain than a rain forest.
- c) A jungle refers to the thickest area of a rain forest
- d) A jungle and a rain forest each contain their own group of distinct plants and animals.

2) What is the world's most common religion?

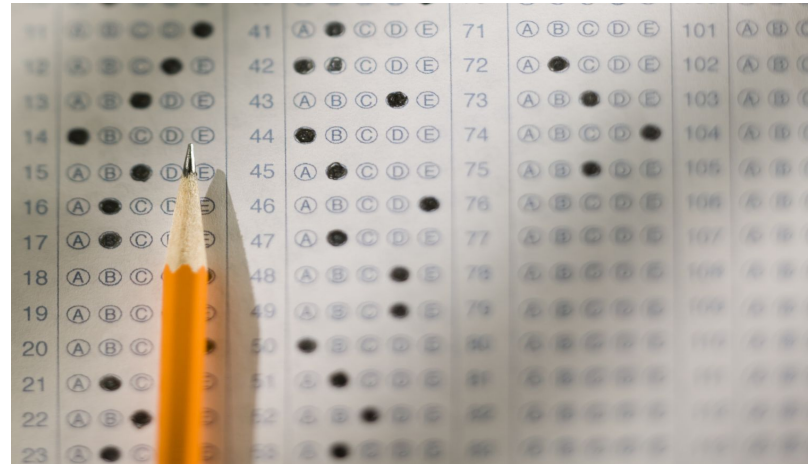
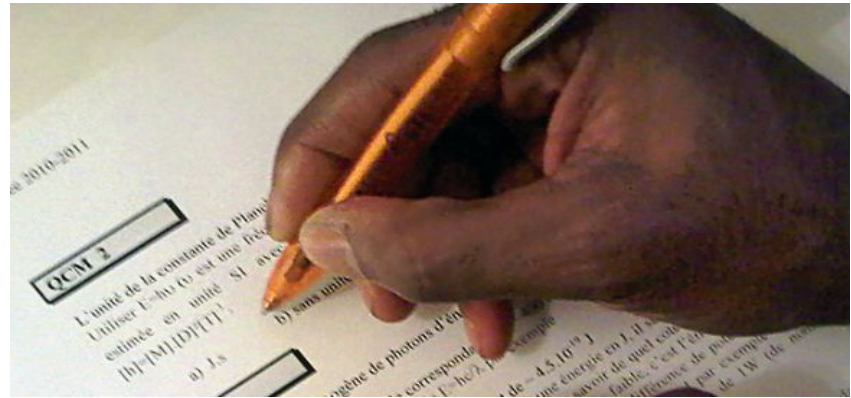
- a) Christianity
- b) Buddhism
- c) Hinduism
- d) Muslim

3) Which city ranks as the world's most populous city (2002)?

- a) New York (US)
- b) Mexico City (Mexico)
- c) Tokyo (Japan)
- d) Shanghai (China)

4) What is the second largest country (in size) in the world?

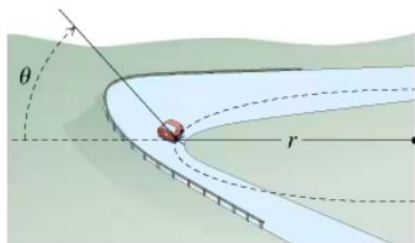
- a) USA
- b) China
- c) Russia



### ± Banked Frictionless Curve, and Flat Curve with Friction

A car of mass  $M = 1200 \text{ kg}$  traveling at  $55.0 \text{ km/hour}$  enters a banked turn covered with ice. The road is banked at an angle  $\theta$ , and there is no friction between the road and the car's tires. (Figure 1)

Figure 1 of 1



[Help from YouTube!](#)

Check out this [video on YouTube](#) for help with this concept!

#### Part A

What is the radius  $r$  of the turn if  $\theta = 20.0^\circ$  (assuming the car continues in uniform circular motion around the turn)?

Express your answer in meters.

m

**Submit** [Hints](#) [My Answers](#) [Give Up](#) [Review Part](#)

**Incorrect; Try Again; 4 attempts remaining**

Be careful to express the magnitude of the normal force correctly.

#### Part B

This question will be shown after you

Instructors: [View all hidden parts](#)

MasteringPhysics: Walker, Physics 5e Demo Assign...

<https://session.masteringphysics.com/myct/itemView>

**Hint 1.** How to approach the problem (click to open)

**Hint 2.** Identify the free-body diagram and coordinate system

Which of the following diagrams represents the forces acting on the car and the most appropriate choice of coordinate axes?

**A**

**B**

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<https://mlm.pearson.com/northamerica/assets/upload/MasteringPhysics-tutorials.png?v1473871914>



# canvas

## Teacher Workshop

### How To Grade in Canvas



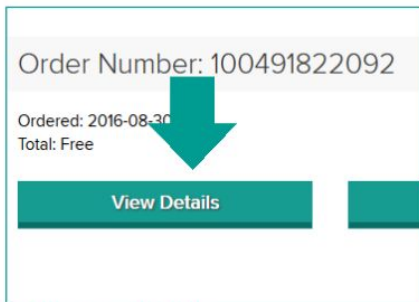
Reproduced under Fair Use: <https://i.ytimg.com/vi/VufGgtTZbwM/maxresdefault.jpg>

# Finding a Homework Access Code

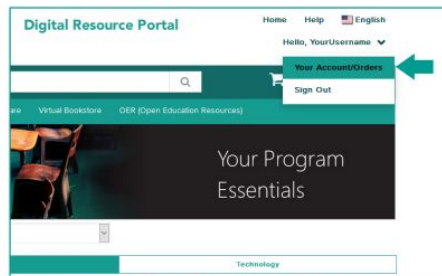
Or "Publisher Resource Code," or "Online Course Code," or "Digital Code"



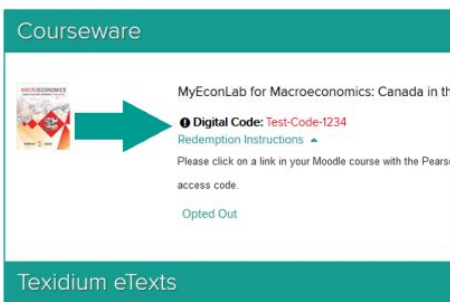
1. **Sign into your school's Digital Resource Portal (DRP).**  
Sign into the site where you ordered the product for which a code was issued.



3. **View your order details.**  
Click the **View Details** button next to your order for the digital course package to reach the Order Details page.



2. **Go to your Orders & Downloads list.**  
Open the dropdown menu under your username, and click **Your Account/Orders** to reach a list of your orders.



4. **Find your code.**  
You will find any digital codes issued with the order under the Courseware section of the Order Details page. Speak to your course instructor for instructions on what to do with your code.

# Do homework systems improve student learning?

Trost S. & Saleh-Ifahani, D. (2012) The effect of homework on exam performance: Experimental results from principles of economics. *Southern Economic Journal* 79(1): 224-242.

From the Editor's Desk Opinion Spotlight

# From the Editor's Desk: Hundreds for homework is an unreasonable ask

Caroline Block, Editor-in-Chief

September 5, 2024

## RECEIPT

FALL 2024

TEXTBOOK AND  
HOMEWORK ACCESS ..... \$129.99

TEXTBOOK AND  
HOMEWORK ACCESS ..... \$160.71

TEXTBOOK AND  
HOMEWORK ACCESS ..... \$179.95

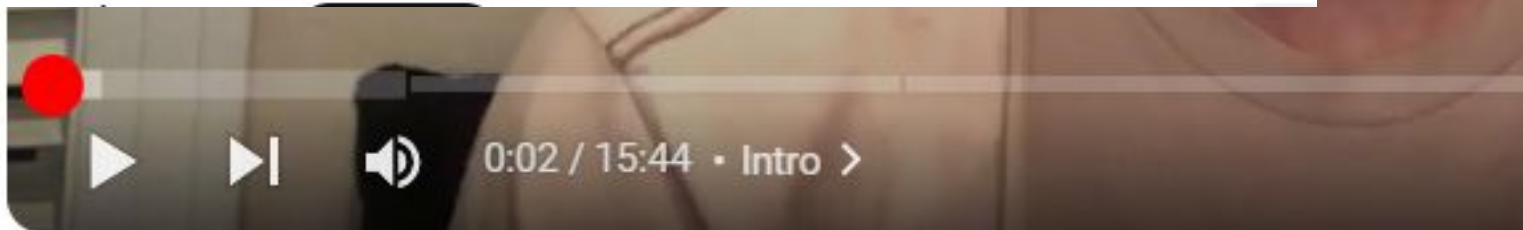


# What are the costs of using homework software?

Clinton-Lisell, Virginia & Alison E. Kelly (2024). The cost of doing homework: Online homework systems with access codes from a social justice perspective. *International Journal of Technology in Education and Science* 8(2): 296-310.



**College Textbook Online Access Codes Are A SCAM! Here's Why**



**College Professor EXPOSES Online Access Code SCAM**

<https://youtu.be/AGI7XVxtOEY?feature=shared>

<https://youtu.be/abc5FNpzmVc?feature=shared>



The Open Education Initiative (OEI) leads implementation of multiple homework software replacement projects at Virginia Tech. These projects are designed to:

- unbundle text and homework access code decision-making and purchase processes,
- expand faculty choice and control over regarding homework/assessment systems and curricular materials in general,
- reduce costs for students, and
- create opportunities for subject matter experts to collaborate in creation, review, and sharing of assessment strategies, tools, and content.

**Current options:**

WeBWork

OpenTextResults (aka PressbooksResults)

Testbank development

Engineering assessment environment development

<https://guides.lib.vt.edu/oer/homework>

**Released**

Fundamentals of Business testbank	377 multiple choice items		
Strategic Management	782 multiple choice items		
Electromagnetic Fields I & II	Four volumes of course problems & solutions		
Aerospace Structures	27 Canvas Quizzes		
Introductory Statistics	H5P (for participation grading)		

**Under development**


Refreshed testbank for Fundamentals of Business			
Linear Algebra			
Statistics for Social Sciences			
Biological Statistics			
Chemistry			

## Summary of Projects

Type of Grant	Book, Course, or Subject Area	Project Lead	Lead Institution	Resources Created
H5P (1)	<i>Writing for Success</i>	Brenna Clarke Gray	TRU	<a href="#">156 H5P</a>
H5P (1)	<i>Psychology: H5P Edition</i>	Simon Lolliot	UBC	<a href="#">282 H5P</a>
H5P (1)	<i>Introduction to Tourism</i>	Rebecca Wilson-Mah	RRU	<a href="#">59 H5P</a>
H5P (1)	<i>Concepts of Biology</i> (1st Canadian edition)	Michelle Nakano and Charles Molnar	Camosun	<a href="#">80 H5P</a>
H5P (1)	<i>Vital Sign Measurement Across the Lifespan</i>	Kymberley Bontinen	Douglas	<a href="#">122 H5P</a>
H5P (2)	<i>Le Francis Interactif</i>	Mirabelle Tinio	Langara	229 H5P (in final review)
H5P (2)	<i>Technical Writing</i>	Deborah Neilsen	CNC	<a href="#">42 H5P</a>
H5P (2)	<i>Physical Geology</i>	Karla Panchuk	UBC-O	<a href="#">200 H5P</a>
H5P (2)	<i>Principles of Social Psychology</i>	Farhad Dastur and Hammond Tarry	KPU	<a href="#">25 H5P</a>
H5P (2)	<i>Principles of Marketing</i>	Biggi Weischedel	TRU	<a href="#">78 H5P</a>
H5P (2)	<i>Foundations of Digital Marketing</i>	Rochelle Grayson	Langara	<a href="#">18 H5P</a>
STEM	<i>Organic Chemistry</i>	Jessie Key	VIU	<a href="#">240 ChemSketch</a>
STEM	Math	Stefan Luktis	BCIT	90 WeBWork (in final review)
STEM	Math	Elyse Yeager	UBC	<a href="#">40 PrairieLearn</a>
STEM	Physics	Firas Moosvi and Jake Bobowski	UBC-O	<a href="#">467 PrairieLearn</a>
STEM	Biomechanical Engineering	Robyn Newell	UBC	<a href="#">98 WeBWork</a>
Other	Philosophy	David Gilbert	UBC	<a href="#">278 Carnap</a>

<https://bccampus.ca/2022/08/01/open-homework-systems-project-wrap-up>

# Various options for open source or “lower-cost” homework

- OpenStax technology partners (discounted access) <https://openstax.org/partners>
- MyOpenMath <https://www.myopenmath.com/info/aboutus.php>
- LumenLearning - Online Homework Manager (OHM)  
<https://www.lumenlearning.com/what/ohm>
- PressbooksResults (PB, H5P, LMS integration)  
<https://resources.pressbooks.com/results-pilot>
- PrairieLearn <https://www.prairielearn.com/>
- LibreTexts ADAPT <https://libretexts.org/platforms/adapt-open-homework>
-  WeBWork <https://openwebwork.org>

# Grant funding in this area



## George Mason University (The Virtual Library of Virginia)

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**Program:** National  
Leadership Grants - Libraries

**Fiscal Year:** 2024

**Federal Funds :** \$248,235

**City:** Fairfax

**State:** VA

Log Number: **LG-256640-OLS-24**

Virginia's Academic Library Consortium, a state-funded consortium of 71 academic libraries, in cooperation with Software Services by Scientist.com (a software development company with a record of contributing to open-source software) and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (the developers of Zotero and Omeka), will scale the next phase of development of an open-source, learning management system (LMS)-integrated open educational resources repository for assessment, homework, and test-bank resources. This next phase of project development, which aims to ensure seamless integration with the four most popular LMS platforms, will seed the repository with extensive content, streamline the user-tested upload and permissions processes, and consider the best practices for artificial intelligence (AI) -generated and vetted problem sets.



# WeBWork

<https://openwebwork.org>

## 2.6 Quadric Surfaces: Problem 6

(1 point) Library/UMN/calculusStewartET/s\_12\_1\_prob01/s\_12\_1\_prob01.pg

Previous Problem

Problem List

Next Problem

This set is visible

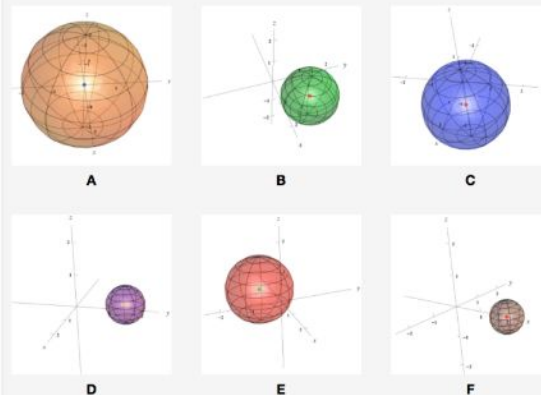
ANSWERS ONLY CHECKED -- ANSWERS NOT RECORDED

### Results for this submission

Entered	Answer Preview	Result
B	B	correct
C	C	correct
D	D	correct
A	A	incorrect

At least one of the answers above is NOT correct.

Match the equations of the spheres with one of the graphs below.



B

1.  $(x - 1)^2 + (y - 1)^2 + z^2 = 1$

C

2.  $x^2 + y^2 + (z + 1)^2 = \frac{9}{4}$

D

3.  $x^2 - 4x + y^2 - 4y + z^2 - 2z = -\frac{35}{4}$

A

4.  $x^2 - 4x + y^2 + z^2 = -\frac{15}{4}$



# WeBWork Year 1 Pilot: Summer 2023 to Spring 2024

## **In Spring 2024 alone:**

Over 1,065 students, 29 sections, and 15 unique faculty in Mathematics and Statistics departments used WeBWork at Virginia Tech during Spring 2024. This is a 33% increase in students compared to Summer/Fall 2023.

100% of faculty using WeBWork indicated that they would use it again (n=10)

Saved students at least \$74,000 and potentially \$110,000.

Some evidence of reduced DFW rates.

**In Fall 2024** added four more courses, including Chemistry



## **WeBWork (Feedback surveys Spring 2024)**

100% of faculty adopters indicated they would use WeBWork again

92% of students would like to see WeBWork used again



## Demo by Heath

Log in as “Guest”

<https://webwork.lib.vt.edu/webwork2/test>



## **Q&A with Heath Hart**

Please provide a bit more context to the audience regarding why having WeBWork available for your courses is **so important** to you?

How have you personally used WeBWork these in years 1 & 2 of the pilot? What have you been able to accomplish?

And what type of response have you received from your department?

What kind of effort does this take for faculty adopters who are not leading the technical side of this project? In other words, what would you like potential adopters to know about this system?

What kind of effort has this taken for you as the system administrator – and what sort of support has been helpful to you in taking on that sort of work?

For what sorts of disciplines is this system ideally useful?

What are some of the really cool other features that might be helpful for people to know about?



## Thank you and discussion

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Heath Hart [heathdav@vt.edu](mailto:heathdav@vt.edu)