ZTC Terminology



Overview

Define the terms we are using for ZTC classes, how we want to label them for students, how we want to code them on our scheduling spreadsheets, etc. Some classes may be ZTC, while others just may not have a textbook/materials. What other options exist? What makes sense for the college, is transparent, and is student-readable?

Purpose

To differentiate between no-cost and low-cost with the goal of actively promoting the selection of course materials that result in cost savings to students, potentially increasing equity and enrollment.

Case Study I — Chaffey College

Chaffey distinguishes between two types of cost in its schedule:

- 1. No costs for textbooks, software, tools, or materials. (\$)
- 2. No costs for textbooks.



<u>Click link to view the Chaffey Spring 2022 Schedule</u>

Case Study 2 — Skyline College

Skyline distinguishes between two types of cost also:

- 1. Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC)
- 2. Low Cost Open Educational Resources (OER) <\$40 🛄

Astronomy										
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= ZERO TEXTBOOK COST. Courses use alternative instructional materials and methodologies, including open educational resources, to eliminate conventional textbook costs.						logies,	ASTR 100	41500	GRIST	
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Click link to view Skyline's example

Student Facing: Some Options

No.	Name	lcon	Code	Description / Comments
I	Zero-Cost		ZC	
2	Low-Cost	\$	LC	
3	Low-Cost OER	DER	LC	<\$40
3	No-Materials		NM	
4	Low-Cost OER with specific cost)) + \$35	LC+	<\$40
5				
6				

Deciding Factors

- Transferability / recognition across campuses, incld. CC, CSU, UC, etc.
 - Icon is most common [🔊
 - It is not common for CSU and UCs to differentiate between zero- and low-cost courses
- Clear communication to sell courses to students
 - Icon already in use
 - Keep it simple
 - As meta-data so students can filter zero- and low-cost courses
 - List of courses with specific cost given

Recommendation

I recommend that we emulate Skyline College's approach to labeling classes and distinguish between two simple options. Having reviewed a number of options, Skyline's approach seems the most student-centered and the easiest to understand. They also provide a link to the associated textbook / materials when possible.

No.	Name	lcon	Code	Description / Comments
I	Zero-Cost Course		ZC	
2	Low-Cost Course	OER	LC	