



Lumen Learning Announces OER Math Pilot Program for Spring 2014

Eliminate Textbook Costs While Improving Student Success in Math

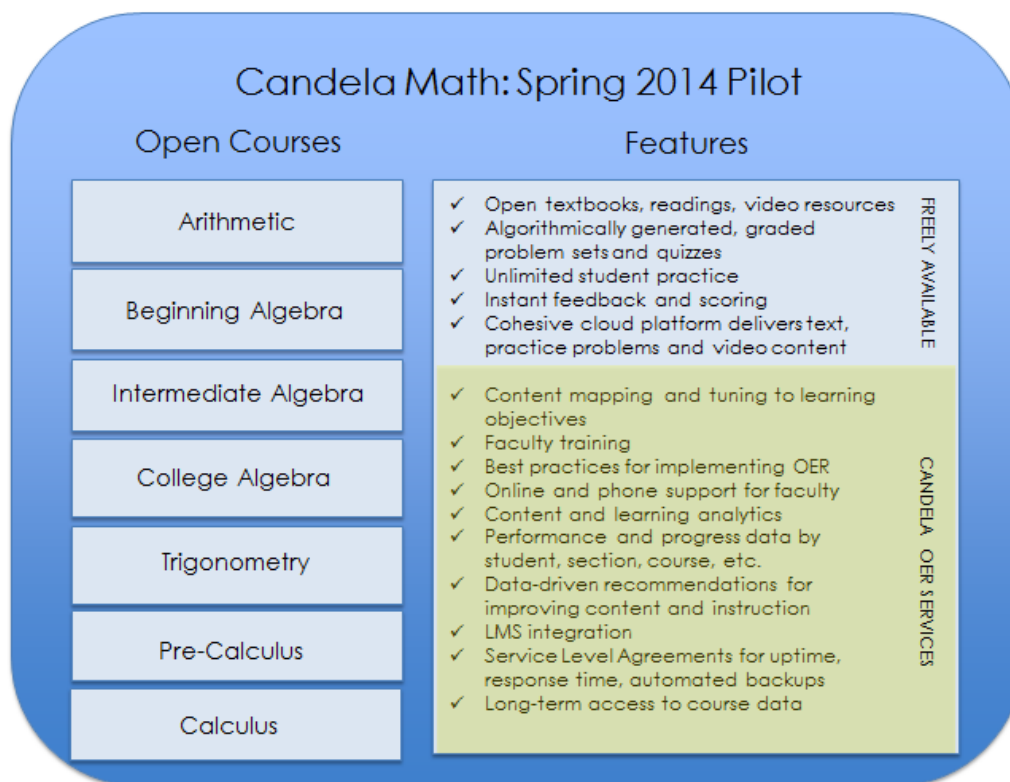
PORTLAND, Oregon (October 1, 2013) – Lumen Learning announces a Spring Semester 2014 pilot program for [Candela Math](#), its new service package to support math education using sustainable [open educational resources](#) (OER). The pilot program offers college and university math faculty a low-risk opportunity to try OER-based math courses with their students.

OER-driven Cost Savings and Higher Pass Rates for Students

Lumen’s Candela Math courses eliminate all textbook costs for students and provide free digital access to all course materials on the first day of class. Student success metrics from prior pilots indicate pass rates in Lumen-developed math courses are significantly higher than in courses based on commercial materials.

How the Pilot Works

Through the pilot, institutional faculty will select and offer an OER-based developmental or college level math course supported by Lumen Learning’s Candela Math services. The courses are designed around high quality open textbooks paired with extensive video tutorials and an online homework system. Lumen makes the open math courses freely available to students and faculty members via the [MyOpenMath platform](#), complete with algorithmic, auto-grading homework and quizzes to provide immediate feedback. Lumen’s open courses are suitable for face-to-face, online and hybrid delivery.



During the pilot program, Lumen team members, who are among the world's foremost OER experts, will work with instructors to build a math course aligned to their learning objectives using OER. The pilot program provides training for instructors on effective use of OER, as well as telephone and online faculty support throughout the term of instruction. The pilot includes content and learning analytics to measure student performance and identify areas for improvement in course materials and instruction. Lumen also provides hosting and guaranteed uptime for online learning tools.

A Record of Success with OER

Through the NGLC-funded [Kaleidoscope Open Course Initiative](#), the Lumen team has supported 25+ successful OER pilots and implementations. New York's [Mercy College](#) is a case in point. In fall semester 2011, Mercy College offered no OER-based math courses. After piloting a Lumen-developed open course in several sections of College Algebra during spring 2012, the College was sufficiently impressed with outcomes to shift all sections of College Algebra to the OER-based course in fall semester 2012. This change eliminated College Algebra textbook costs for all students and resulted in overall pass rates improving from 64% in fall 2011 to 69% in fall 2012, an increase of 5%.

Act Now to Participate in the Spring 2014 Math Pilot

Lumen Learning plans to open the Spring 2014 Math Pilot for up to twenty institutions. A nominal participation fee of \$2,500 covers the entire program. To learn more, academic leaders and faculty members are invited to take the following steps:

- Try Lumen's open math courses for free at [MyOpenMath.com](#)
- [Attend a Webinar](#) about [Candela Math](#) and the Spring 2014 pilot, planned for October and November 2013. Register on the [Lumen Learning website](#).
- [Contact the Lumen team](#) directly via the Lumen Learning website or by sending a message to Lumen CEO Kim Thanos at kim.thanos@lumenlearning.com.

About Candela Math

[Candela Math](#) is a subscription-based service package that supports institutions' successful transitions from commercial educational content to open content and courses for developmental and college math. Candela Math includes faculty training and support, content curation, learning analytics, hosting and guaranteed uptime for the MyOpenMath system, LMS integration and other elements that make OER sustainable as a viable academic and curriculum strategy.

About Lumen Learning

Lumen Learning provides an evidence-based approach for using open educational resources (OER) to eliminate textbook costs and improve student success. Founded by open education innovator Dr. David Wiley and education technology strategist Kim Thanos, the Lumen team has played an integral role in several of the most influential OER initiatives to date in secondary and higher education. Lumen services guide educators in integrating OER into academic strategy, training and supporting faculty, measuring success, and improving the quality of OER-based courses over time. Learn more at www.lumenlearning.com.

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