**Affordable Learning Georgia Affordable Materials Grants  
Continuous Improvement Grants Final Report**

*(or Mini-Grants, for R17 and earlier)*

# General Information

Date: 12/18/2024

Grant Round: 25

Grant Number: M278

Institution Name(s): East Georgia State College

Team Members (Name, Title, Department, Institutions if different, and email address for each):

**Dr. Martiana Sega, Associate Professor of Biology,** [**msega@ega.edu**](mailto:msega@ega.edu)

**Dr. Jimmy Wedincamp, Professor of Biology,** [**wedincamp@ega.edu**](mailto:wedincamp@ega.edu)

Project Lead: Martiana Sega

Course Name(s) and Course Numbers: Introductory Biology or BIOL 1103

Final Semester of Project: Fall 2024

***If applicable to your project:***

Average Number of Students Per Course Section: 26+14+21+13= 74/4= 18.5

Number of Course Sections Affected by Implementation of Revised Resources: 4

Total Number of Students Affected by Implementation of Revised Resources: 74

# Project Narrative

*Describe the course of your revision or ancillary creation project, including*

* *A summary of your project’s purpose, plan, and timeline.*
  + The main purpose of this project was to add videos to help students prepare for the course and complete their assignments. Additionally, we have reviewed and updated the course map, ppt slides, assignments and the questions bank.
* *The original works which were revised or added to, with links. For example, if you revised an open textbook, give the title, author, and link.* 
  + Revising and adding new materials to the previous ALG grant #559 (round 18): <https://alg.manifoldapp.org/projects/openstax-concepts-of-biology-ancillary-materials>
* *A narrative description of how the project’s plan was carried out.*
  + The materials’ update was completed during the summer semester, and the implementation was completed during the fall semester. A master course template was created on D2L then shared with other faculty.
  + The course template included the ppt slides, a question bank, quizzes for each chapter, assignments, exams, videos’ links, and a survey.
  + All the materials and links pertaining to each chapter were included in each chapter’s module with the videos in their own submodule except for the assignment’s videos that were included in another submodule.
  + Assignments and quizzes were set up online on D2L. Each quiz was set up to randomly choose 10 questions from a pool of questions for each student and show the incorrect questions without the correct answers. Students were given second chances for the correct completion of the assignments after written feedback.
  + For the face-to-face courses we have used in class exams with few exceptions (due to hurricane Helene). Online exam results were not used in the analysis.
* *Lessons learned, including anything you would do differently next time.*
  + The analysis of ALG25 exams’ results showed comparable outcome to the ALG18 grant implementation, and significantly better than the results before the course transformation.
  + The satisfaction survey showed that students were positively affected by this transformation. Based on the students' perceptions, the materials that helped them the most were the ppt slides, videos and quizzes.
  + The assignments’ videos usage was recorded, and the data showed a higher engagement rate in the beginning of the semester (56% compared to 19%). We will have to increase awareness about the availability of the videos to assist with the completion of graded assignments.
  + No statistical significance difference was found when comparing the success rate, DFW rate, retention, pre- vs. post-test data between ALG25 and ALG18.
  + One of the students shared that:
  + “My favorite thing about a free online textbook is that it was free, and I didn't have to worry about losing it or returning it once I got done with it.”

# Materials Description

*Describe all the materials you have created or revised as part of this project. These descriptions may be used in the* [OpenALG](https://alg.manifoldapp.org/) *repository description field. Include the* [*open license your materials will be shared under*](https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/)*—for most materials, this will be an Attribution 4.0 License (CC BY) as required in the Grants Request for Proposals.*

* The following is a list of all materials modified or/and added to the new revised BIOL 1103 course:
  + Course map – addition of all the learning outcomes from Openstax textbook
  + Ppt slides
    - addition of all the learning outcomes within each chapter’ ppt slides
    - for clarity purposes some changes were made
  + Assignments
    - more details were added in the instructions part
    - videos were added for each graded assignment
  + Questions bank – some changes were made
  + Videos links for each chapter were added on D2L

# Materials Links

*If you are hosting your materials in places other than OpenALG, please provide these links in this section. Otherwise, leave blank. Note: we cannot access D2L or Canvas links.*

* Materials will be hosted on OpenALG

# Future Plans

* *Describe any planned or actual papers, presentations, publications, or other professional activities that you expect to produce that reflect your work on this project.*
  + As a result of the introduction of Openstax free textbook and creation of materials, the students had better results on most of the exams compared to the control. Hence, it is important to share the findings with the rest of the faculty that are interested in improving students' learning experiences. It is our hope that our results will be accepted for a presentation at teaching gatherings and through publication.
* *Describe any plans to revise or add to these materials in the future.* 
  + It would be ideal to create more graded assignments to include other chapters and not limit them to only 5 chapters.