

## Introduction to “Waymaker aligned to SUNY OSCQR: Review and Refresh Your Course”



### About this Matrix

This matrix demonstrates how Waymaker, which uses openly licensed content combined with high-touch personalized learning tools designed to strengthen metacognition and student success reflects OSCQR (SUNY Online Course Quality) standards and how digital courseware using openly-licensed material is used (e.g., the tools used are accessible, a student orientation for courseware is provided, etc.). The academic and pedagogical OSCQR standards are left intentionally up to the instructor. The award-winning and well-established [OSCQR](#) rubric developed by [SUNY Online](#). The intent of this matrix is to provide SUNY faculty, who are either considering adopting Waymaker, or are already using Waymaker, with a map that illustrates where in the Waymaker process specific OSCQR standards are addressed. True to OSCQR's goals this matrix does not purport to be an evaluative measure, but instead focuses on providing structures for designing high-quality, learner-centered online courses. The first iteration of this matrix was developed by SUNY OER Services and Lumen Learning. Feedback is greatly appreciated. Please email SUNY OER Services at [oer@suny.edu](mailto:oer@suny.edu) with your comments, thoughts, and suggestions.

### About [Waymaker](#)

Available at no cost to SUNY faculty and students, Waymaker uses openly licensed content combined with high-touch personalized learning tools designed to strengthen metacognition and student success by offering:

- Analytics-based learning tools, including a dashboard that identifies struggling students.
- Seamless integration with LMS, including the gradebook.
- All ancillary materials (e.g., assignments, test banks, discussion forums, etc.).
- Content and tools that meet all accessibility standards.

Waymaker supports a range of customization options for faculty, including:

- **LMS Customization** - Once Waymaker is integrated into the LMS, instructors can significantly customize the course by reordering, retitling, and removing content, as well as adding their own materials within the LMS course site.
- **Waymaker Study Plan Customization** - Each module within a Waymaker course includes a “Study Plan,” which contains the primary content for the topic, along with pre-assessments, self-checks, and graded quizzes. Content sections within the Study Plan can be moved, or removed, to align content with how individual instructors sequence their own courses. Self-Check and Graded Quiz questions can be edited, removed, or added to by the instructor as well.
- **Content Customization** - While this feature is still being rolled out to all courses, faculty and students can provide recommendations for changes to specific content pages by using the “Improve this Page” tool found at the bottom of each page of content. Minor changes, such as typographical errors, are generally corrected within 12-hours, while more substantial recommendations go through a peer-review process, and are then added to the “master course” during regular update cycles to ensure content remains high quality and factually correct.
- **Data-Driven Continuous Improvement** - Waymaker courses also go through a continuous improvement process on a regular basis that uses de-identified data from national use of the platform to identify content and assessment items that are not leading to desired outcomes. Subject matter experts and Lumen then work to redesign these materials following research-based instructional design methodologies.

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### About [SUNY OER Services](#)

SUNY OER Services (SOS) operates as part of [SUNY’s Office of Library and Information Services](#) (OLIS). SOS works directly with SUNY campuses and faculty to provide assistance and knowledge to support the adoption of open educational resources (OER) and sustained use of OER as drivers of faculty choice and student success. To learn more visit the SOS website at: <http://oer.suny.edu>

### About [Lumen Learning](#)

Lumen Learning provides affordable course materials designed to strengthen learning using open educational resources (OER). Lumen works to improve student success, affordability, and access simultaneously applying learning science insights and learning data analysis to develop continuous improvements to its courseware. Adding timely updates, learning design, and technical support to OER, Lumen makes the transition to open content simple, reliable, and effective for instructors and students. Thanks to a partnership with SUNY, Lumen’s OER courseware platforms (Waymaker, OHM, and Candela) are available at no cost to SUNY faculty and students.

To explore and use the Waymaker courses available at no cost to SUNY faculty, and students, please visit this site: <https://oer.suny.edu/courseware/waymaker/>



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