Open Textbook Sprint - Checklist

Below are tips on how to make open textbook sprints productive. As you set up your sprint, keep in mind that an open textbook is not meant to be just an openly-licensed conventional textbook. It is a living text that people will be able to update and adapt to their specific courses and student needs.

☐ **Build a Strong Team:** Focus on team composition and team building. Recruit at least six writers for the book sprint team, and a strong, impartial, facilitator who isn’t invested in your project. Ensure that the library is included and present during the sprint sessions.

☐ **Match Technology to Writers’ Needs:** Select the peer production platform and tools so that they are in alignment with the writers’ technological skills and practices. See examples of authoring tools for OER in the preceding tab.

☐ **Establish an Iterative Workflow Process:** Instill and support an iterative cycle of writing, feedback, and editing, with short feedback cycles integrated throughout.

☐ **Keep Assignments Small:** Break content assignments into manageable chunks to better assure completion and timeliness.

☐ **Seed the Sprint:** Before you start, prepare a library of openly-licensed materials that can be of immediate use during the sprint.

☐ **Promote Self Care:** If you have the resources, hire a massage therapist and/or a yoga instructor to help your team, because being at the keyboard for up to 14 hours a day can put a toll on the body.

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