



**University of Idaho**  
Library

**THE TEXTBOOKS ARE  
TOO EXPENSIVE!  
OPEN EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES AND  
GRADUATE STUDENTS**

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# Session details

This is an interactive presentation that is enhanced with your input as an audience.

To participate, go to [Menti.com](https://menti.com) and enter code:

7662 3417



# Learning Objectives

- Identify and distinguish between different types of Open including
  - Open Access publishing
  - Open Educational Resources or OER
  - Open Textbooks
- Know how and where to search for Open resources!
- Be inspired to collaborate with the Library

# Defining Open

- **Open Access**

- Refers to Open Access journals or journals that publish without charging the reader to access content

- **Open Educational Resources or OER**

- Resources such as lesson plans or activities, specifically those available free and typically with an expansive copyright license

- **Open Textbooks**

- Complete textbooks designed to replace traditional texts.

# **What about fair use?**

Fair use is the exception in copyright law that allows for copyrighted materials to be used in an educational setting. Determinations of fair use typically involve evaluating how much of a resource is used and how the use impacts the financial and intellectual property considerations of the copyright holder.

# What's different about Open?

Open materials are intentionally licensed using more permissive forms of copyright, such as the popular Creative Commons License. They typically allow for remixing and adaptation, though sometimes with some restrictions.



# Creative Commons Licenses

## The 3 Layers of the CC License



- Legal Code  
The terms and conditions of a CC license that are legally enforceable in a court.
- Commons Deed aka Human Readable  
This is the plain language element of the license. Aims to summarize the legal code.
- Machine Readable  
This "machines only" file helps search engines and other aggregators, and even AI, to identify a CC license.

# Creative Commons Licenses

## Key Elements of a Creative Commons License

Graphic created by  
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- BY - Who Made It?  
This element is common to all CC licenses. It means all CC approved uses must include attribution to the original license holder.



- NC - How can it be used?  
NC means non-commercial. Work with this license can only be used for a noncommercial purpose.



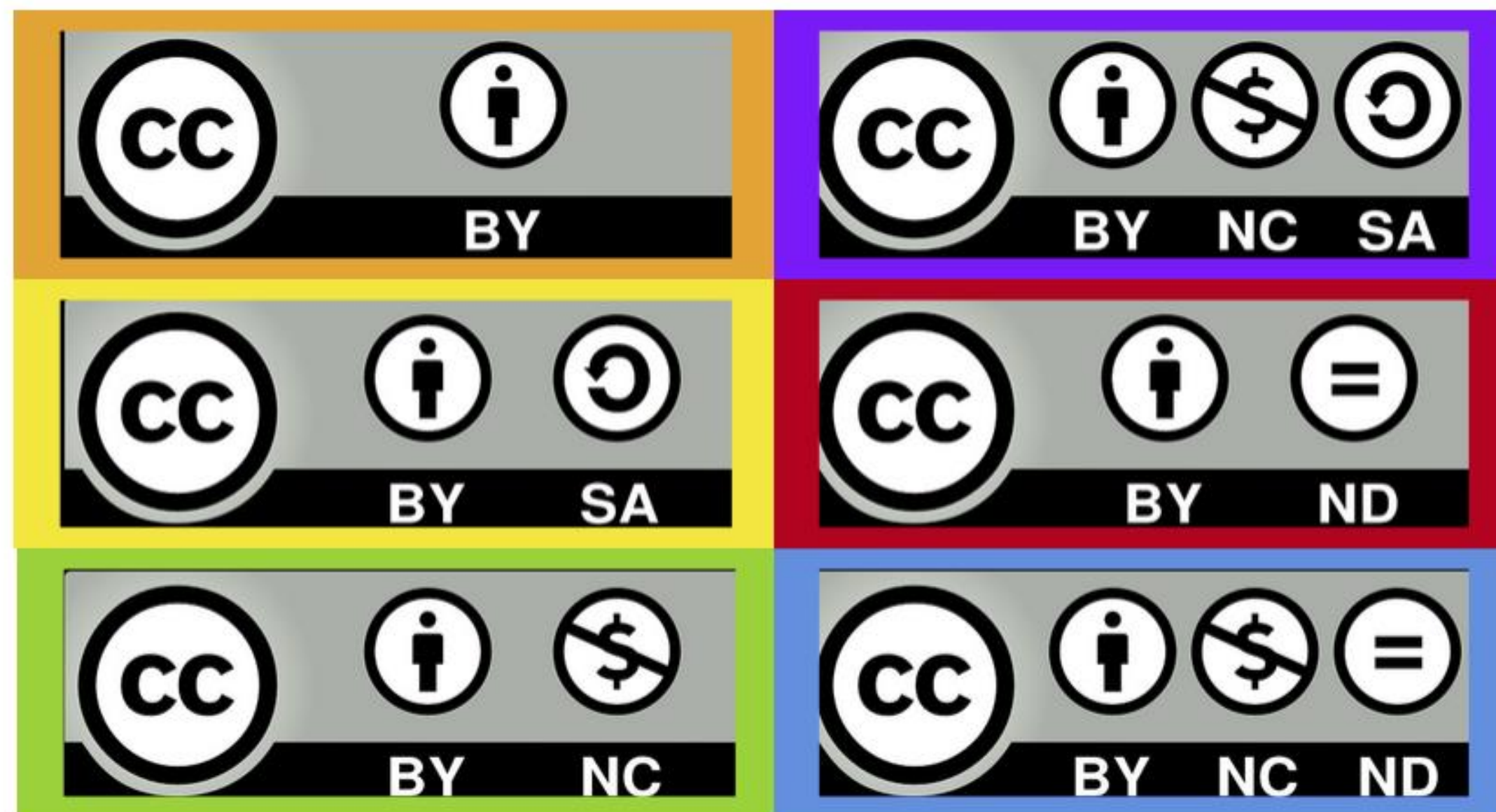
- SA - How can it be shared again?  
The ShareAlike element says future adaptations must maintain the same license as the original.



- ND - How can it be modified?  
The NoDerivatives element means re-users cannot share adaptations of the work.



# Creative Commons Briefly



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## The 4 License Elements



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# Advantages of Open

- Cost
- Access
- Timeliness/readiness
- Format options
- Can be participatory
- Supports custom content/faculty vision

# Research has shown

- Open Textbooks are of comparable quality and, often ranked more favorably by both students and faculty than for-cost texts.
- Open curriculums support better Drop, Fail, and Withdraw rates, with particular benefits for PELL Scholars and first generation students.
- Open textbooks and curriculums support creativity and innovation.

See <https://openedgroup.org/review> for more research!

# Challenges to Open

- Time
- Hard to find good resources
- Perceptions of materials as lacking quality
- Unsure where to start



# Spring 2023 Course Materials Survey

This survey was distributed to all undergraduate and graduate students and faculty in April 2023. Respondents who completed the survey totaled 1,112. Preliminary results show that there is high student desire for affordable course materials, and faculty interest in developing OER despite barriers to adoption including limited time and knowledge.



# Spring 2023 Course Materials Survey

Initial Findings by Ropski, Rodrigues, and Seiferle-Valencia:

Undergraduate participants (n = 704)

- 60% reported experiencing challenges in affording living expenses while at UI
- 47% reported not purchasing a required course material because they could not afford it
- 86% reported purchasing a required course material for a class and not using it

# Spring 2023 Course Materials Survey

Graduate participants (n = 243)

- 45% reported experiencing challenges in affording living expenses while at UI
- 38% reported not purchasing a required course material because they could not afford it
- 58% reported purchasing a required course material for a class and not using it

# Spring 2023 Course Materials Survey

Teaching assistants (n = 49)

- 20 TAs reported using OERs in their current classrooms
- 37 TAs reported interest in using OERs in a future classroom

*Teaching faculty participants (n = 165)*

■ Self-reported average cost of course materials per class

Average cost of course materials per class	<i>n</i>
\$0-30	34%
\$31-50	13%
\$51-100	25%
more than \$100	23%
I'm unsure of the current approximate average cost of course materials for my courses (per course)	5%



Table showing average course materials costs as reported by faculty.

# Library Offerings

- Open Access Publishing Fund
- Think Open Fellowships
- Leganto course reserves
- Custom digital platforms and tools with CDIL Fellowships
- Pressbook Publishing and Open Publishing at University of Idaho

# Where to look for journals and texts

- Open Access Journals
  - Check the [Directory of Open Access Journals](#) to get familiar with the Open journals in your discipline
- Open Textbooks
  - [OpenStax](#)
  - [OpenTextbook Library](#)
  - [UBC Open Textbooks](#)
  - [Idaho Open Press; Boise State Pressbooks; Idaho State University Pressbooks](#)



# Where to look for OER

- OER

- [OER Commons](#)
- [Teaching Commons](#)
- [Merlot](#)
- [OASIS](#)
- [MIT Open Courseware](#)

# Open strategies at Uldaho

- Leganto Course Reserves
  - Save students \$\$\$ and still use licensed materials using our Canvas-ready digital course reserves platform Leganto
- Pressbook Publishing and Open Publishing at University of Idaho
  - Clone an existing pressbook and make your own custom version with your class.
  - Publish original content in an easy and professional package.
- Custom digital platforms and tools
  - Work with the Library to build a custom solution

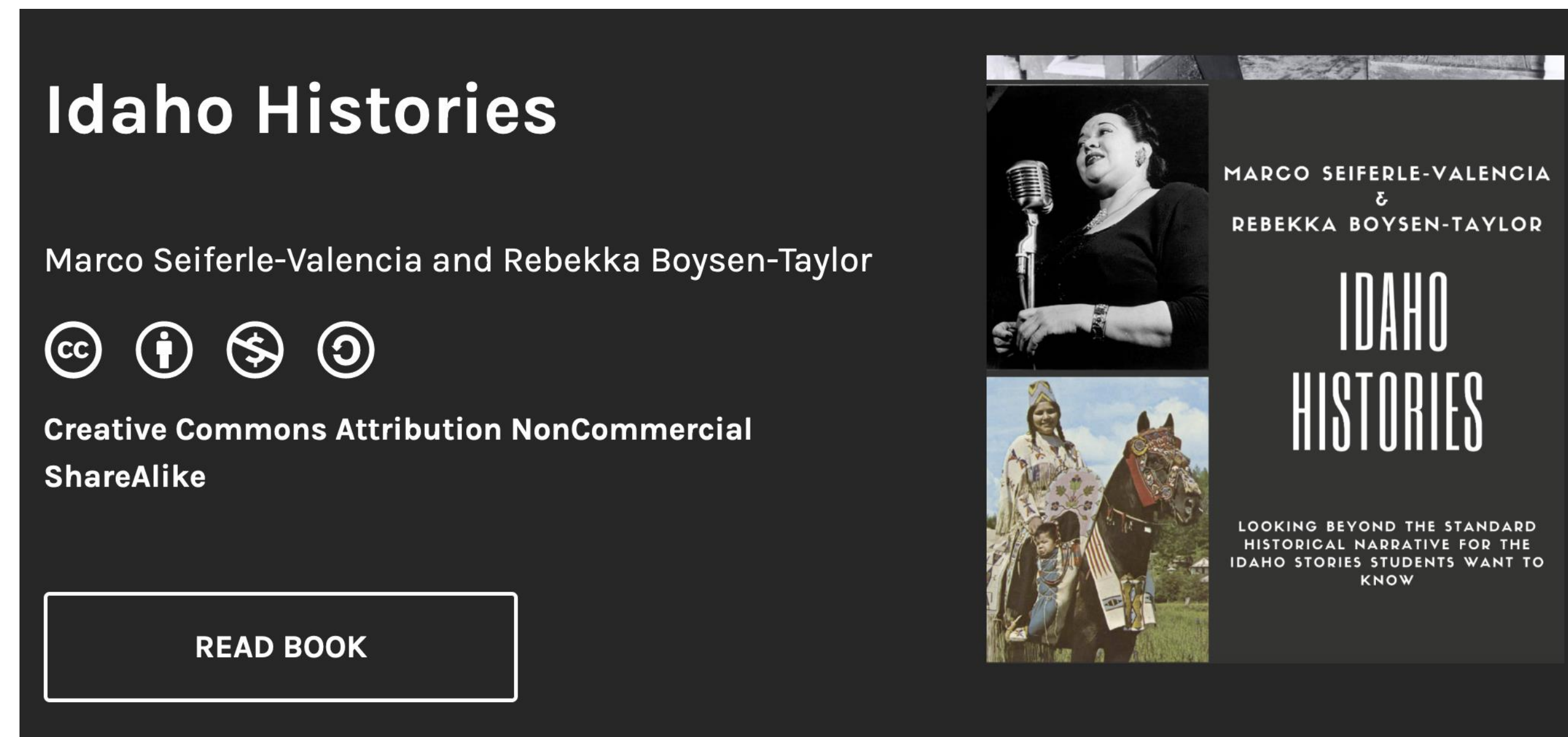
# Previous Think Open Fellowships

- [Integrated Musicianship: Aural Skills](#) – by Miranda Wilson
  - An Open-Source, interactive, online textbook for college-level music courses.
- [Inquiry-Based Music Theory](#) by Sean Butterfield and Evan Williamson
  - An Open-Source, interactive, online textbook for college-level music theory courses written and designed by Sean Butterfield and Evan Williamson.
- Adoption of existing Open textbooks such as:
  - A Physics OpenStax Think Open Fellowship project developed by PhD student Russ Miller: learn more [here](#).

- Creation of OER for K-12 classrooms and College of Education undergraduate courses such as:
  - Rebekka Boysen-Taylor's [Teaching Anna Murray Douglass](#) lesson plans
  - Janine Darragh's trauma-informed ESL [lesson plans](#), created for use in Nicaragua and Syria and shared in 2021 with students at Central American University, Managua, Nicaragua.

# Idaho Histories Example

- Now a [Pressbook](#), started as an Open Educational Resource that was used for both a local elementary school and pre-service social studies students.



# Fall 2023 Graduate Student Essentials



**When:** Wednesdays from 12:30pm – 1:30pm

**Where:** Library first floor classroom (Room 120) and live via Zoom

**September 6:** Essential Library Resources, Services, and Skills for Graduate Students

**September 13:** Getting started with Zotero

**September 20:** The Textbooks are Too Expensive! Open Educational Resources and  
Graduate Students

**September 27:** Six Questions to Ask before Publishing Your Journal Article

**October 4:** Make Data Management Easier

**October 11:** Web Mapping for Every Discipline – How to Use ArcGIS Online







**THANKS FOR YOUR TIME  
AND ATTENTION!**

**REACH OUT WITH QUESTIONS TO  
[MARCOSV@UIDAHO.EDU](mailto:MARCOSV@UIDAHO.EDU)**