



Introducing Massive Open Online Courses

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Massive Open Online Courses

Massive Open Online Course, a term used to describe web technologies that have enabled educators to create virtual classrooms of thousands of students. Typical MOOCs involve a series of 10-20 minute lectures with built-in quizzes, weekly auto-graded assignments, and TA/professor moderated discussion forums. Notable companies include **Coursera**, **edX**, and **Udacity**.

Why are MOOCs different?

- Short (10-20 minute) lectures recorded specifically for online.
- Quizzes that are usually integrated into lectures.
- TA / Professor moderated discussion forums.
- Letters, badges, or certificate of completion.
- Graded assignments with set due dates (graded by computer).
- Large class sizes (often tens of thousands of students).

MOOCs History

The modern MOOC began with an open Computer Science course at Stanford, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, taught by Professor Sebastian Thrun in 2011. The wildly successful course, with **160,000** students in attendance, led Thrun (along with his colleagues David Stavens and Mike Sokolsky) to create **Udacity** in 2012, kicking off MOOC mania.

Coursera, edX, Udacity



1) For Profit

2) Identity verified, "Signature Track" courses offer accredited completion certificate.

3) 62 Colleges and Universities.

2.8 Million Registered Users.

337 courses.

<https://www.coursera.org/>

1) Non-profit

2) N/A

3) 675,000 Registered Users.

12 Universities.

24 Classes.

<https://www.edx.org/course>

1) For Profit

2) Universities accept credit after completion of certificate & final.

3) 400,000 Users.

22 active courses.

<https://www.udacity.com/>

Khan Academy



- ▶ Founded in 2006 by Salman Khan
- ▶ Non profit organization
- ▶ In 2010, Khan Academy introduced badges as part of a program to promote gamification of learning. There are currently 6 types: **Meteorite badges**, **Moon badges**, **Earth badges**, **Sun badges**, **Black Hole badges**, **Challenge badges** (Patches).
- ▶ Have courses for Math, Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, etc.), Economics and Finance, Arts and Humanities, Computing and Test Prep (i.e. SAT, MCAT, GMAT and etc.)
- ▶ <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

How to register?

FIND YOUR NEW COURSE



Search the courses page and explore topics and professors. We're always adding more.

REVIEW AND CHOOSE



Read through the course prerequisites and time commitment so you know what to expect.

BECOME AN EDX STUDENT



Just click "Register Now", both edX and the classes are free (yes, really).

START STUDYING AND HAVE FUN



Crack the virtual books, start studying and connect with others online - and have fun!



How to register?

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the edX website, illustrating the registration process:

- Top Screenshot:** Shows the edX homepage with navigation links: HOW IT WORKS, FIND COURSES, SCHOOLS & PARTNERS, REGISTER, and LOG IN.
- Middle Screenshot:** Shows the registration form with the following fields:
 - E-mail ***: Required field, example: `example@domain.com`
 - Full Name**: Required field, example: `Example Name`
 - Public User**: Example: `example`, with a note "Will be shown"
 - Password ***: Required field
- Bottom Screenshot:** Shows the user's dashboard after registration. A dark notification box reads: "Thanks for Registering! You've successfully created an account on edX. We've sent you the link in the message. Thank you for enrolling in The Road to Selective College Admissions. Get involved. Help edX bring high-quality education to even more students today." The dashboard includes:
 - Profile Card:** Nomeni, FULL NAME (edit) **Natalya Chemayeva**, EMAIL (edit) **nomeni@gmail.com**, PREFERRED LANGUAGE (edit) **English**, CONNECTED ACCOUNTS: Facebook (Link), Google (Link), Reset Password.
 - CURRENT COURSES:** SMES, COL101x The Road to Selective College Admissions (Course has not yet started), Enroll (button), Enroll Settings (link), Unenroll (link).

At the bottom of the dashboard, there is an edX logo and the text "Edx offers interactive online classes and MOOCs from the world's best". On the right, there are links for "About edX" and "Follow Us" with a Twitter icon.

Controversy

As MOOCs become increasingly popular all over the world, the means by which learning is measured, evaluated, and credited is a topic of controversy in higher education.

Some courses have already been accredited and universities are beginning to accept transfer credit for completing MOOCs. These companies have quickly grown in size and hype, and their rapid growth has led to many questions around how MOOCs may shape the future of higher education. As MOOCs become increasingly popular all over the world, the means by which learning is measured, evaluated, and credited is a topic of controversy in higher education.

Sources

Distance Learning

- ▶ Von V. Pittman, "Correspondence Study in the American University: A Second Historiographical Perspective, in Michael Grahame Moore,
- ▶ William G. Anderson, eds. Handbook of Distance Education pp 21-36 (Correspondence Courses)
- ▶ Levering Tyson, "Ten Years of Educational Broadcasting," School and Society (1936) 44:225-31 (Radio)
- ▶ <http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/registrar/moocs>

Enter MOOCs

- ▶ <http://davecornier.com/edblog/2008/10/02/the-cck08-mooc-connectivism-course-14-way/> (coining MOOC) <http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/eli7078.pdf> (first MOOC course)

MOOCCompanies

- ▶ <https://www.edx.org/about> (edX why founded)
- ▶ <http://blog.coursera.org/post/40080531667/signaturetrack> (Coursera Signature Track)
- ▶ <http://chronicle.com/article/A-First-for-Udacity-Transfer/134162/> (Udacity Revenue)
- ▶ <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/04/education/edlife/massive-open-online-courses-are-multiplying-at-a-rapid-pace.html?smid=pl-share> (Udacity Profit Sharing)
- ▶ <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/02/21/coursera-and-edx-add-universities-and-hope-expand-global-reach> (Twice As Many Moocs)

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