What MOOCs are doing for Higher Education: A Pedagogical perspective

Professor Stephen Brown
Visiting Fellow CDE, University of London International Programmes
28 January 2014
IT BEGAN IN CANADA...

"IT'S DISRUPTING EVERYTHING!"

"IT'S A TSUNAMI OF POORLY UNDERSTOOD PEDAGOGY!"

DAY OF THE MOOC

STARRING: George SIEMENS, David WILEY, Dave CORMIER and Stephen DOWNES
Connectivists Unleashed a Force They Cannot Control!

http://www.michaelbransonsmith.net/blog/2012/12/19/day-of-the-mooc-now-animated/
The Chronicle of Higher Education
800 Free MOOCs from Great Universities (Many Offering Certificates)

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Below you can find a list of 800 Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) offered by leading universities. Most of these courses offer “certificates” or “statements of completion,” though typically not university credit. (See the key below to understand the credentials offered by each course, and see our MOOC FAQ if you have general questions.) Courses are arranged by start date, while evergreen courses, which can begin whenever you wish, are found at the bottom. Also don’t miss our separate collection, 800 Free Online Courses from Top Universities.
MOOC Completion Rates: The Data

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) have the potential to enable free university-level education on an enormous scale. A concern often raised about MOOCs is that although thousands enrol for courses, a very small proportion actually complete the course. The release of information about enrollment and completion rates from MOOCs appears to be ad hoc at the moment—that is, official statistics are not published for every course. This data visualisation draws together information about enrollment numbers and completion rates from across online news stories and blogs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Start date</th>
<th>End date</th>
<th>Number enrolled</th>
<th>Number completed</th>
<th>% completed</th>
<th>Assessment type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2013-01-28</td>
<td></td>
<td>5628</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>Auto grading only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical Biostatistics Bootcamp</td>
<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2013-04-10</td>
<td></td>
<td>21916</td>
<td>2087</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>Auto grading only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2013-01-28</td>
<td></td>
<td>75884</td>
<td>6909</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gamification</td>
<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2013-04-01</td>
<td></td>
<td>66438</td>
<td>5592</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>Auto and peer grading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Databases</td>
<td>Class2go</td>
<td>2013-01-15</td>
<td></td>
<td>4417</td>
<td>4054</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>Auto grading only</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.091x Introduction to solid state chemistry</td>
<td>EdX</td>
<td>2012-10</td>
<td></td>
<td>432</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>7.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software Engineering for SaaS</td>
<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2013-01-28</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2013-01-22</td>
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<td>Coursera</td>
<td>2012-12</td>
<td>2013-02</td>
<td>66800</td>
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- **How big is the typical MOOC?** While enrollment has reached up to ~180,000, 50,000 students enrolled is a much more typical MOOC size.
- **How many students complete courses?** Completion rates can approach 20%, although most MOOCs have completion rates of less than 10%.

**Source:** [http://www.katyjordan.com/MOOCproject.html](http://www.katyjordan.com/MOOCproject.html)

*45,000 drop out
5,000 complete*

*31.3% Public US
52.4% Private US*
Motivation

- No expectation of completion or achievement
- Fun, social experience
- Convenience
- Explore online education

Costs

- Online Courses
- Traditional Courses

Cost per Student vs. # of Students per Class
"We were on the front pages of newspapers and magazines, and at the same time, I was realizing, we don't educate people as others wished, or as I wished. We have a lousy product."

Sebastian Thrun
November 14 2013
IT BEGAN IN CANADA...

LESSONS?

DAY OF THE MOOC

STARRING: George SIEMENS, David WILEY, Dave CORMIER and Stephen DOWNES

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Not so Massive

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<td>Coursera</td>
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<td>EdX</td>
<td>2012-10</td>
<td>2013-01</td>
<td>28512</td>
<td>2082</td>
<td>7.3</td>
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Source: [http://www.katyjordan.com/MOOCproject.html](http://www.katyjordan.com/MOOCproject.html)
Not so Open

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Master's Degree: 46.9%
- Graduated from college: 27.3%
- Ph.D.: 11.0%
- Some graduate school: 7.4%
- Some college: 4.8%
- High School: 2.5%
- No formal school

Source: Tucker Balch MOOC Student Demographics (Spring 2013)
http://augmentedtrader.wordpress.com/2013/01/27/mooc-student-demographics/
Not so Open

In which country do you reside?

- United States: 35.9%
- United Kingdom: 6.3%
- India: 5.1%
- Spain: 4.5%
- Canada: 4.3%
- Brazil: 3.6%
- China: 3.6%
- Australia: 3.1%
- Germany: 2.9%
- Italy: 1.7%
- Netherlands: 1.7%
- Russian Federation: 1.7%
- Singapore: 1.7%
- Hong Kong: 1.5%
- Israel: 1.5%
- All Other Responses: 20.7%

Source: Tucker Balch MOOC Student Demographics (Spring 2013)
http://augmentedtrader.wordpress.com/2013/01/27/mooc-student-demographics/
Not so Open

• Fees
  – Enhanced support
  – Certified registration
  – Examination
  – Course credits
Scenario planning for educators

Another free professional development opportunity from the OERu
29 July - 9 August 2013

About SP4Ed

Scenario planning for educators (SP4Ed) is a free micro Open Online Course (mOOC) offered by the e-Learning Research Lab at the University of Canterbury in collaboration with the OER Foundation. The two week course will simulate the scenario planning process for navigating uncertain education futures.

The SP4Ed mOOC is offered in parallel with the Change with Digital Technologies in Education course (EDED360) in the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (e-Learning and Digital Technologies) at the University of Canterbury. OERu learners will be participating with registered EDED360 students.

Facilitators

Niki Davis, Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education during 2013 and University of Canterbury Professor of e-Learning and Director of the College of Education e-Learning Lab. See: Eli & welcome video

Wayne Mackintosh, Director, OER Foundation and COL Chair in OER at Otago Polytechnic. See: Eli & welcome video

Course registration

Login to WikiEducator to register or update your blog url below. (You can create a free account if you don't have one.) Consult the getting started page for instructions and additional information as required. Your registered name, country and blog address will be displayed publicly.

Join 121 others from 34 countries.

Registered SP4Ed 13.07 participants

Course materials

Session 1: Monday 29 July 2013
Establish your personal learning environment

Session 2: Wednesday 31 July 2013
Introduction to scenario planning

Session 3: Friday 2 August 2013
A manager's perspective of scenario planning

Session 4: Tuesday 6 August 2013
Drivers of fundamental change in Education

Session 5: Thursday 8 August 2013
Not so much (University) Courses

“We're not doing anything as rich and powerful as what a traditional liberal-arts education would offer you”

November 14 2013
The Open Education Alliance (OEA) is an industry-wide alliance of employers and educators in the service of students throughout the world. It provides access to cutting-edge and relevant post-secondary education that empowers individuals to pursue successful careers in technology.
At edX, we strive to create a better future through access to quality education. We have partnered with universities, nations, and non-profits to expand access to quality education throughout the world. Today we mark another first. We are proud of an innovative new collaboration with Tenaris, the world’s leading global manufacturer and supplier of steel for the world’s energy industry.

Through their adoption of the Open edX platform, Tenaris will enhance their existing training programs delivered through Tenaris University to nearly 27,000 employees worldwide. We will also be working with Tenaris and our xConsortium university partners to develop courses specifically designed for their employees. They will also license select edX courses for use in their training programs around the world.
Not so much a university

- Registration only after examination
- Accredit other providers’ content
- Accept third party accreditation
- Portfolio qualifications
Meltdown Monday

- World stock markets plunge as US banking giants collapse
- 4,500 jobs go in the City and analysts warn worse is to come
- HBoS shares drop by 20pc and £9bn wiped off value of pensions
Should universities be concerned?
• The cost of a 4-year college degree has increased by 2 to 3 times since the 80s
• Starting salaries for graduate have remained flat in real terms
• Universities vulnerable to disruptive innovation where easy-to-ignore “inferior,” low-cost alternatives improve to the point where they become a serious threat.
We're incredibly excited to offer the first fully accredited, massive Online Master of Science in Computer Science from Georgia Tech in collaboration with AT&T. Beginning in January 2014, this degree will be offered at an affordable price, and later next Spring individual courses will also be available for students to take for free or for individual certification. Our mission with each single course is to help students advance their knowledge and careers. **Cost of the degree: $6,600**

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Scalability

Average SSR = 1:18
50,000 students = 2,778 tutors
@ 1:25 = 2000
Online

Source: Dave Courmier YouTube What is a MOOC? http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eW3gMGqcZQc
• Huge latent demand, growing
• MOOCs not a magic bullet
• Learner motivation not understood
• Business models not sustainable
• Moocs potentially disruptive
• Impact
  – Strategic review on online learning
  – Pedagogical innovation
Stephen.Brown@cde.london.ac.uk

Visiting Fellow CDE, University of London
International Programmes