



What's a MOOC?

Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is a term that emerged in 2008 for a particular type of open online course format.

Massive – 100 - 100,000 enrollment. Focus on scalability, community and connections.

Open – Open registration, open content, free of charge or affordable.

Online – Internet connection, local cohorts, real-time interaction.

Course – Self-paced, start/end dates, college credits, personal growth, badges (credentialing), learning community, scripted assessments and feedback.

MOOC Providers

Below are some open source platforms that provide diverse university MOOC courses. MOOC-list.com is a directory of MOOC courses from different providers.

- <https://www.class-central.com/>
- <http://coursera.org>
- <https://www.edx.org/>
- <http://openuped.eu/>
- <https://www.mooc-list.com/initiative/canvasnet>
- <https://www.mooc-list.com/initiative/futurelearn>
- <https://www.mooc-list.com/initiative/open-education>
- <https://www.mooc-list.com/initiative/udacity>

MOOCs: Educational Opportunities for DKG Members

Did you know you can participate in free courses at Harvard, Stanford and MIT among others? These institutions and other prestigious universities in the United States and around the world offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for the public. If you would like to refresh your specialization, retrain, or gain new knowledge, you can find courses to meet any need. MOOC courses are currently offered in 13 languages, the vast majority in English (80%), followed by Spanish (8.5%), French (4%), and Chinese (3.5%). The subject breakdown for MOOC courses has been fairly consistent over the last several years. The humanities, computing science, and business administration are the leading subjects, accounting for roughly half of all courses in 2013 and 2014.

A typical MOOC course might take place over 4 to 10 weeks, with the average time dedicated by a student averaging 2 to 6 hours a week. Course applicants can number in the thousands, while those who complete and obtain certificates are usually numbered in the hundreds.

Coursera.org and edX.org are two of the many open source platforms where you can find suitable MOOC courses. You can search for a subject, e.g. education, and the outcome will be a list of diverse courses from different providers. With a click on the course title, all information about the course will appear: where you can enroll, when the course starts, the commitment, the language, how to pass, etc. You must sign up to be able to participate in a course for free, or you can pay a small fee to get certification if you finish the assignments. In most courses, e-mails are used regularly with information about the syllabus and tasks. When you have finished the course, you will receive e-mails from the service provider from time to time offering new interesting courses.

In the near future, DKG is hoping to offer online courses for webmasters and editors.



How Does a Student Participate in a MOOC?

MOOCs allow any student to enroll in a course as long as he or she is able to access the course materials online. MOOCs take advantage of various Web-based technologies, including learning management systems, conferencing session tools, video presentations, computer-based assessments, online communication forums, blogs, online multimedia, social media, and mobile technologies. These varied technologies allow thousands of students to have access to all the course content, formative and summative assessments, and support from their fellow students.

