

Research Issues and Findings of MOOCs: Learning to Better Design Practices

Curtis J. Bonk | cjbonk@indiana.edu
Indiana University Bloomington

Meina Zhu | meinazhu@wayne.edu
Wayne State University
May 27, 2020

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March 19, 2020

Doors Open

The Commonwealth of Learning

<https://www.col.org/resources/keeping-doors-learning-open-covid-19>

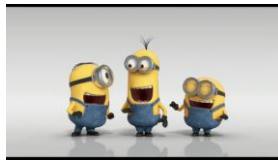


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Talk Outline

1. MOOC News and Trends
2. MOOC ID Considerations and Challenges
3. MOOC ID for Self-directed Learning
4. MOOC personalization.



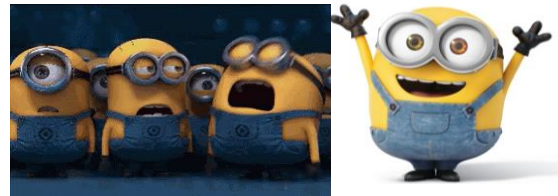
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Polls

Poll #1: Who in here has taken a MOOC?

Poll #2: Are you happy or frustrated when you take a MOOC?



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April 29, 2020

Zoom Boom

Synchronous instruction is trending, but experts say a more intentional mix of live and asynchronous classwork is necessary for future remote terms.

Colleen Flaherty, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/04/29/synchronous-instruction-hot-right-now-it-sustainable>

Zoom Boom

Synchronous instruction is trending, but experts say a more intentional mix of live and asynchronous classwork is necessary for future remote terms.

by Colleen Flaherty | April 29, 2020



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MOOC Trends and Recent Data



6

December 16, 2019 2020 Impact Report, edX

<https://www.edx.org/sites/default/files/2020-impact-report.pdf>



7

April 30, 2020

New Udem Report Shows Surge in Global Online Ed in Response to COVID-19
People around the world are learning how to work from home and stay productive as the Future of Work arrives

Businesswire: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200430005243/en/>

Highest Enrollment Surges by Country Since Shelter in Place



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April 30, 2020

New Udem Report Shows Surge in Global Online Education in Response to COVID-19

There has been an immense surge in enrollments in courses related to Telecommuting (21,598% increase) and Virtual Teams (1,523%), as well as Decision Making (277%), Self Discipline (237%), and Stress Management (235%).

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200430005243/en/>

Udemy Topic Enrollment Trends



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April 30, 2020

New Udem Report Shows Surge in Global Online Education in Response to COVID-19

Strong global growth in top-ranking professional skills includes Neural Networks (61% increase), Communication Skills (131%), and Growth Mindset (206%). Passion topics like Pilates (402% increase), Technical Drawing (920%), and Ukulele (292%), have surged as well.

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200430005243/en/>

1. 425% increase in enrollments for consumers
2. 55% increase in course creation by instructors
3. 80% increase in usage from businesses and governments
4. 130% growth in enrollments in the U.S., 200% in India, 320% in Italy, and 280% in Spain.
5. People in India are learning Business Fundamentals (281%) and Communication Skills (606%)
6. Italians are taking courses on Guitar (431%), Copywriting (418%), and Photoshop (347%)
7. The Spanish are taking Piano (466%) and focused on Investing (262%)

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April 30, 2020

New Udem Report Shows Surge in Global Online Education in Response to COVID-19
Businesswire

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200430005243/en/>

Categories with the highest surge in new courses include Office Productivity (159% increase), Health and Fitness (84%), IT & Software (77%), and Personal Development (61%).



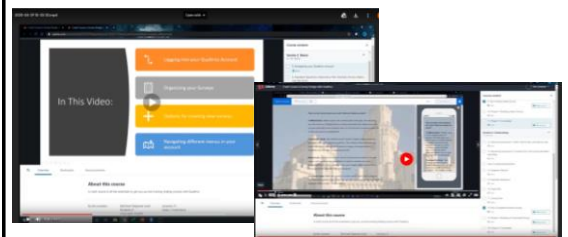
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April 29, 2020

MOOC and Qualtrics

Tanner Phillips, Udemy

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xKTPubDYIK91Y-8R3odkxFytHqQnc0/view>

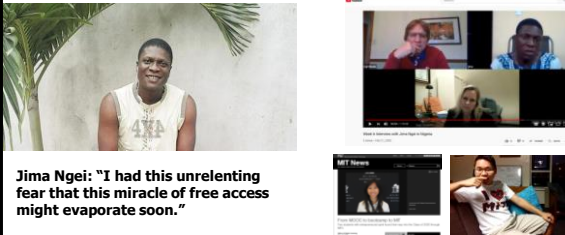


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Hundred+ MOOC Clubs

February 21, 2020

250 MOOCs and Counting: One Man's Educational Journey, Chronicle of Higher Education
<http://chronicle.com/article/250-MOOCsCounting-One/229397?cid=at>
 If the MOOC movement has faded, nobody told Jima Ngei. Mr. Ngei, who lives in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, has completed and passed 250.



Jima Ngei: "I had this unrelenting fear that this miracle of free access might evaporate soon."

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MOOCs Stats

December 17, 2019

Online Degrees Slowdown: A Review of MOOC Stats and Trends in 2019, Dhawal Shah, Class Central
<https://www.classcentral.com/report/moocs-stats-and-trends-2019/>




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MOOCs Stats


December 17, 2019


A Review of MOOC Stats and Trends in 2019
 Dhawal Shah, Class Central
<https://www.classcentral.com/report/moocs-stats-and-trends-2019/>


CLASS CENTRAL

 **110M**
Students

 **900+**
Universities

 **13.5k**
Courses

 **820**
Microcredentials

 **50**
MOOC-based degrees

By the Numbers: MOOCs in 2019
Statistics do not include China

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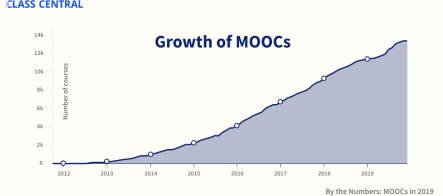
MOOCs Stats

December 17, 2019

A Review of MOOC Stats and Trends in 2019
 Dhawal Shah, Class Central
<https://www.classcentral.com/report/moocs-stats-and-trends-2019/>

CLASS CENTRAL

Growth of MOOCs



By the Numbers: MOOCs in 2019
Statistics do not include China

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MOOCs Stats

December 17, 2019

A Review of MOOC Stats and Trends in 2019
 Dhawal Shah, Class Central
<https://www.classcentral.com/report/moocs-stats-and-trends-2019/>

Here's how the top-5 MOOC providers currently look in terms of users and offerings:

	Learners	Courses	Microcredentials	Degrees
Coursera	45 million	3,800	420	16
edX	24 million	2,640	292	10
Udacity	11.5 million	200	40	1
FutureLearn ^{1,4}	10 million	880	49	23
Swayam ^{2,3}	10 million	1,000	0	0

That is why I called the rise of online degrees the second wave of MOOCs, and 2019, the year of MOOC-based degrees.

	2017	2018	2019
Courses	4	11	16
edX	1	9	10
FutureLearn	4	18	23
Udacity	1	1	1
Total	10	39 (1-20)	50 (1-23)

But in 2019, the top seems to have subsided: only 11 online degrees were announced this year. The total number of MOOC-based degrees has now grown to 50.

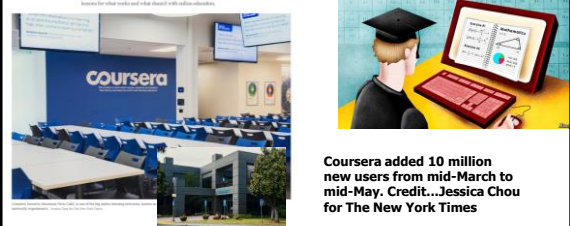
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Remember the MOOCs?

May 26, 2020

After Near-Death, They're Booming
 Steven Lohr, The New York Times
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/26/technology/moocs-online-learning.html>

Remember the MOOCs? After Near-Death, They're Booming
 The growing online learning movement offers hard-earned lessons for other educational ideas that died with online education.

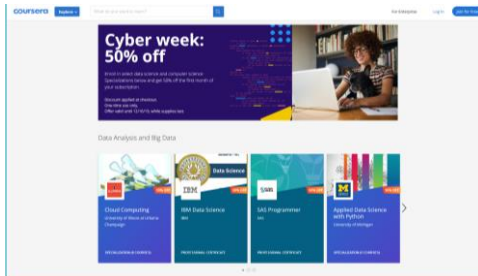


Coursera added 10 million new users from mid-March to mid-May. Credit...Jessica Chou for The New York Times

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December 15, 2019

Coursera <no-reply@m.mail.coursera.org>
Ends TOMORROW: 50% off top tech Specializations



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Study #1 MOOCs Design Considerations and Challenges

Zhu, M., Bonk, C. J., & Sari, A. (2018). Instructor experiences designing MOOCs in higher education: Pedagogical, resource, and logistical considerations and challenges. *Online Learning*, 22(4), 203-241.

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Research Background

- **MOOCs can be beneficial to both learners and instructors** (Hew & Cheung, 2014).
- **Instructional design is critical for online learning** (Johnson & Aragon, 2003; Phipps & Merisotis, 1999).
- **Instructors are one of the five main components of MOOCs** (Kop, 2011).
- **Few studies have examined instructional design from MOOC instructors' perspectives** (Margaryan et al., 2015; Watson et al., 2016).

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Research Purpose

The purpose of this study is to provide suggestions for future MOOC instructors and instructional designers in higher education through exploring MOOC design considerations and challenges from the instructor's perspective.

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Research Questions

1. What are the design considerations of instructors when designing MOOCs?
2. What challenges do instructors perceive when designing MOOCs?
3. How do instructors address the challenges that they perceive related to MOOCs?

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Research Design

- **Sequential mixed methods design (Creswell & Clark, 2017)**



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Data Collection

- **Data Collection:**
 - Survey, interview, and course review
- **Participants:**
 - 143 survey participants (10% response rate)
 - 12 interviewees



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12 Interviewees

No.	Countries	Subject areas	Platforms
1.	The U.S.	Language and Literacy	Coursera
2.	The U.S.	Education	Coursera
3.	The U.S.	Education	Canvas
4.	The U.S.	Chemistry	Coursera
5.	UK	Medicine and Health	FutureLearn
6.	UK	Language and Literacy	FutureLearn
7.	Hong Kong (China)	Math	Coursera
8.	Mainland China	Math	Coursera
9.	Canada	Psychology	Coursera
10.	Australia	Medicine and Health	Open2Study
11.	Sweden	Computer Science	edX
12.	India	Management	edX

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Data Analysis

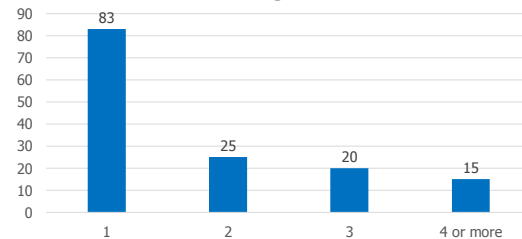
RQs	Data Sources	Data analysis
RQ1	Survey-multiple-choice questions	Descriptive statistics
	Survey-open-ended questions	Content analysis (Elo & Kyngäs, 2008)
	Interview	Content analysis
	MOOC review	Content analysis
RQ2	Survey-multiple-choice questions	Descriptive statistics
	Survey-open-ended questions	Content analysis
	Interview	Content analysis
RQ3	Survey-multiple-choice questions	Descriptive statistics
	Interview	Content analysis

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Research Context

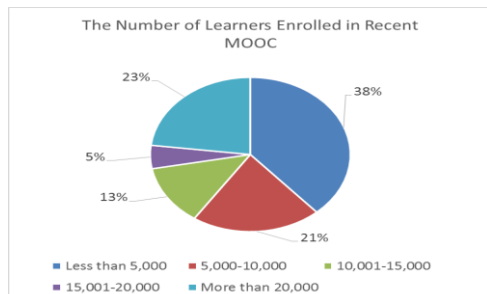
The Number of MOOCs the Instructor has Designed



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Research Context



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Findings RQ1

RQ #1. What are the design considerations of instructors when designing MOOCs?

- Learning objectives
- Assessment
- Time for designing MOOC
- Engaging learners

An example of learning objectives:

Learning Objectives

- Discuss the reason for sampling in scientific investigations.
- Describe the types of sampling techniques available.
- Review reasons why randomization is needed.
- Identify the kinds of errors that can arise in sampling.
- Summarize the ways one can evaluate the quality of survey data.
- Discuss the consequences of randomization such as computing quantiles the.
- Provide examples of the kinds of objects that are sampled.

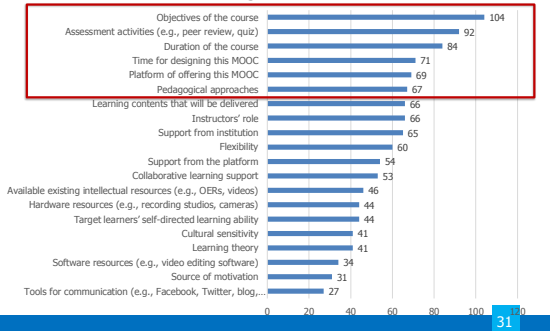
Next Less

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RQ1 Survey Results

MOOC Design Considerations



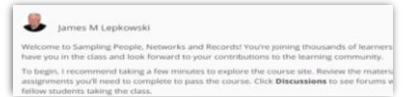
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RQ1 Interview Results

Engage learners

One instructor from US mentioned:

"I engaged people in the forum. So **each week I would write a message that would be the new welcome page for the week** that would say, 'hey come to the forum and ask questions about this or come to the forum introduce yourself'... Of course, I tried to get students to feel like **I was engaged with them during the videos by asking them questions** and telling them to do things during the video."



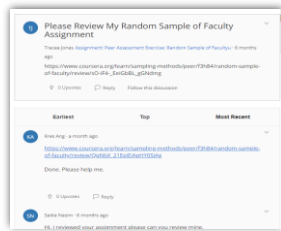
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Findings RQ2

RQ #2. What challenges do instructors perceive

when designing MOOCs?

- Assessment methods
- Engaging students' learning
- Time limitation

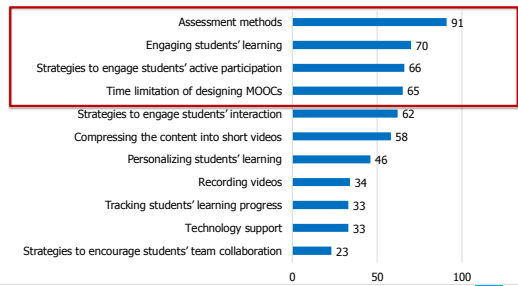


(Note: Above is an example of peer-assessment.)

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RQ2 Survey Results

Design challenges faced by the MOOC instructors



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RQ2 Interview Results

Time limitation

One instructor from education subject mentioned:

"I think one of the challenges is time. It does take a lot of time to get the videos done. **I did not get a course release when I was doing, and it was a side project at the same time as my regular load.**"



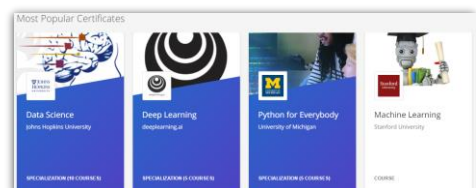
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Findings RQ3

RQ #3. How do instructors address the challenges that they

perceive related to MOOCs?

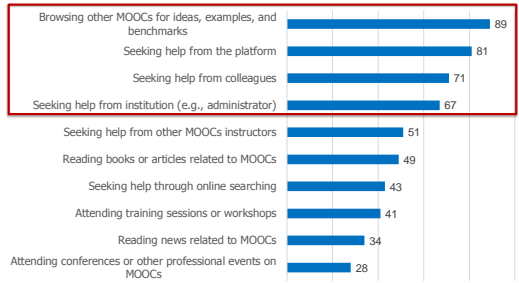
- Explore other MOOC examples
- Seek help from the platform/colleagues/institutions



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RQ3 Survey Results

Ways to Address Challenges



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RQ3 Interview Results

Explore other MOOC examples

One MOOC instructor from the US mentioned:

"When I started making the MOOC, I could see MOOCs that other people had made. So I could see what other people did in terms of having videos with questions embedded in the videos, which I really liked."



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Discussion

- The **time limitation** of creating MOOCs was the primary logistical consideration (Hew & Chung, 2014; Watson et al., 2016) and challenges.
- The **pedagogical factors** were the primary design considerations (Watson et al., 2016) and challenges in MOOC design.
- The **assessment and engagement strategies** are the main considerations as well as challenges.

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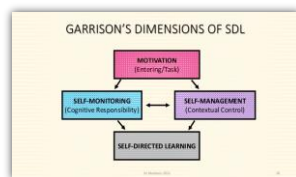
Study #2 MOOCs Instructional Design to Facilitate Participants' Self- directed Learning

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Key Terms

Self-directed learning (SDL) (Garrison, 1997)

- (1) self-management
- (2) self-monitoring
- (3) motivation



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Research Background

- **Learners need self-directed learning skills and strategies to be successful in MOOCs** (Halawa, Greene, & Mitchell, 2014; Littlejohn & Milligan, 2016), as there is a lack of personalized interaction with teachers.
- **Self-directedness of a learner might vary in different learning environments which means that the learners could be more self-directed in one learning environment than another** (Hiemstra, 1994).

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Research Background

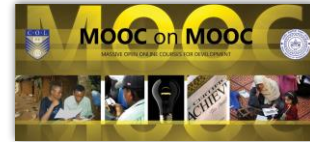
- **Instructional design can greatly influence students' interaction and engagement** (Garrison & Cleveland-Innes, 2005) **and success in online learning** (Song, Singleton, Hill, & Koh, 2004; Swan, 2001).
- However, few studies have examined instructional design and the delivery of instruction using MOOCs from instructor perspectives (Margaryan et al., 2015; Watson et al., 2016); **especially lacking is research on instructors' perception of SDL and how they design MOOCs to facilitate students' SDL.**

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Research Purpose

- **The purpose is to inform instructors or instructional designers and MOOC providers of the current practices of designing MOOCs to facilitate learners' SDL.**



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Research Questions

1. How do MOOC instructors perceive participant SDL skills?
2. How do MOOC instructors perceive their facilitation of participant SDL skills?
3. How do instructors design and deliver MOOCs to facilitate participant SDL skills?
 - a. How is technology being used by MOOC instructors to support the development of participant SDL skills?
 - b. What technology features or functions do MOOC instructors want to have to improve their facilitation of MOOC participant SDL skills?

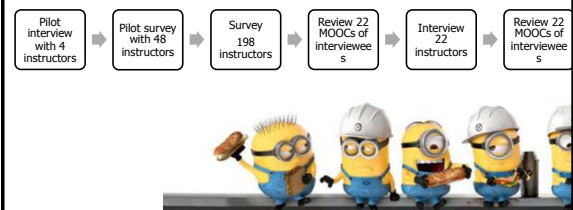
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Research Design

Explanatory sequential mixed methods design

(Creswell & Clark, 2017)



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Data Collections

Survey:

- Volunteer sampling (Creswell & Clark, 2017)
- 198 instructors responded to the survey (10% response rate)

Interview:

- Homogeneous purposeful sampling (Creswell & Clark, 2017; Patton, 2002)
- Maximal variation sampling (Creswell & Clark, 2017)
- 22 interviewees

MOOC review:

- Reviewed 22 interviewees' MOOCs



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Pseudonym	Country	Subject area	Platform	Gender	No. of OIB	No. of M	Mode of the M
Lucas	US	Social science	edX	M	0	1	I without T
Brandon	US	Education	Udacity	M	0	5 or more	Self-paced
Logan	US	Literacy and Language	Coursera	M	5 or more	5 or more	I with T
Emma	US	Literacy and Language	Coursera	F	2	1	Self-paced
Jason	US	Science	edX	M	1	1	I with T
Jackson	US	Medicine and health	Coursera	M	5 or more	1	Self-paced
Samuel	US	Education	FutureLearn	M	4	3	Self-paced
Hannah	US	Education	Blackboard	F	5 or more	1	I with T
Ashley	US	Education	EdX	F	0	5 or more	I with T
Andrew	UK	Art	FutureLearn	M	0	3	I with T
Emily	UK	Medicine and health	FutureLearn	F	2	2	I with T
Aiden	UK	Social science	FutureLearn	M	0	1	Self-paced
Henry	UK	Social science	FutureLearn	M	0	1	Self-paced
Joseph	UK	Medicine and health	FutureLearn	M	1	1	Self-paced
Joshua	UK	Literacy and language	FutureLearn	M	2	2	I with T
Mason	Australia	Education	Coursera	M	5 or more	1	I without T
Ethan	Australia	Business	Coursera	M	3	1	I without T
Ben	Australia	Social science	edX	M	1	1	I with T
Paul	France	Computer Science	Coursera	M	1	1	I with T
Fernando	Belgium	Research methods	Blackboard	M	5 or more	3	I with T
Jacob	Netherlands	Science	Coursera	M	0	1	I with T
Dylan	Israel	Science	Coursera	M	5 or more	3	I without T

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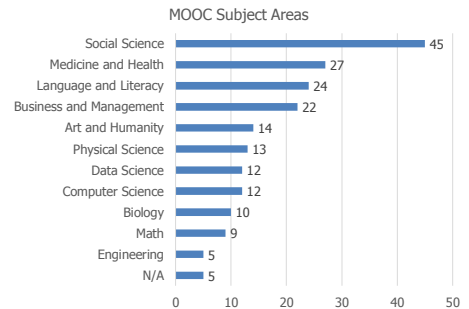
Data Analysis

RQs	Data Sources	Data analysis	Tools
RQ1	Survey	Descriptive statistics	SPSS
	Interview	Content analysis (Elo & Kyngäs, 2008)	NVivo
RQ2	Survey	Descriptive statistics	SPSS
	Interview	Content analysis	NVivo
RQ3	Interview	Content analysis	NVivo
	Course review	Content analysis	NVivo

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Research Context

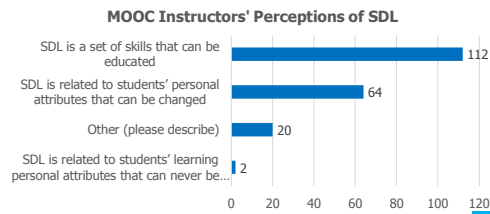


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RQ1 Perceptions of SDL

- A majority of the MOOC instructors thought that these skills or attributes are not static, and that SDL as a set of skills can be educated or students' personal attributes that can be changed.



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RQ1 Interview Results

- Emma's understanding of SDL is more related to self-management and motivation. She said:
 "When I think about self-directed learning, I think about students **managing their time and managing the coursework on their own, and how it fits into their schedules and their lives, how they interact with materials, what's going to keep them engaged.**"

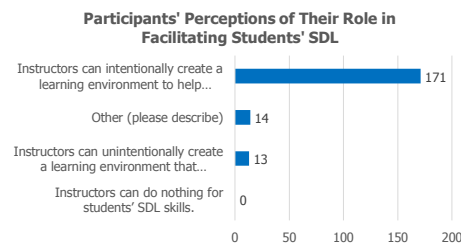


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RQ2 Perceptions of Facilitation of SDL

- Most of MOOC instructors thought that they can intentionally or unintentionally facilitate students' SDL.



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RQ2 Interview Results

- Ashely emphasized the importance of both instructors' facilitation and students' SDL skills. She said:
 "The participant has a lot of flexibility on how they approach the content. I mean, obviously, we have things like assignments. We have things like online forums. And there're ways that we scaffold the learning experience. But there still is a lot of choice for the learner."



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RQ3 Strategies to Facilitate SDL

- Students' intrinsic motivation plays an important role. However, extrinsic motivation provided by the MOOCs might help transfer extrinsic motivation to intrinsic motivation.

Motivations	Strategies
Entering motivation	MOOC instructors helped students identify the needs and goals of learning and sense of achievement.
Task motivation	MOOC instructors motivated students through instruction, learning materials, feedback, and learning community.

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RQ3 Learning Community

Putting yourself on the map (External resource)

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RQ3 Strategies to Facilitate SDL

- Both internal feedback and external feedback were provided to help students' self-monitoring.

Self-monitor	Strategies
Internal feedback	Cognition: MOOC instructors provided quizzes for self-assessment, tutorial on technology use, learning advice, navigation of the course, progress indicators, resources, and instructional modeling, etc.
	Meta-cog: MOOC instructors encouraged students to reflect and think critically by providing reflection questions and building learning community.
External feedback	MOOC instructors, teaching assistants, and peers were involved in providing external feedback.

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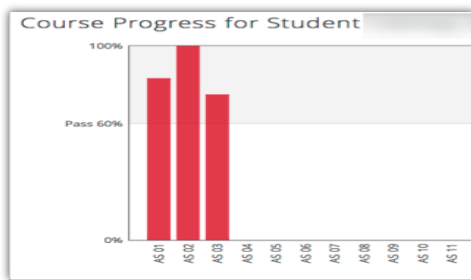
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RQ3 Self-assessment (i.e., embedded quizzes)

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RQ3 Progress Indicators



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RQ3 External Feedback: Peer-assessment (e.g., 3 peers assigned to review each assignment)

REQUIRED	GRADE	DUE
Quiz Module 2 Review Quiz 20 min		Nov 19
Peer-graded Assignment Critical Evaluation of the 2 Approa...		Nov 22
Review Your Peers Critical Evaluation of the 2 Approa...		Nov 25

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RQ3 Strategies to Facilitate SDL

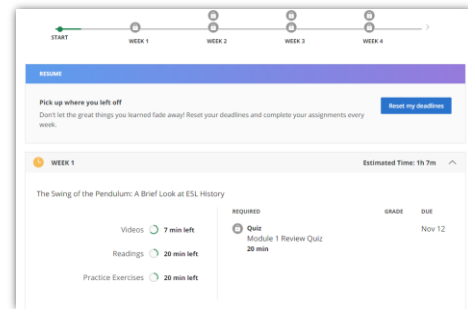
- They helped students' self-management concerning setting learning goals, time management, resources and support management although among the three elements of SDL, MOOC instructors had less control over students' management.

Self-management	Strategies
Enactment of learning goals	Providing discussion questions, reflections, survey, and appreciation students' learning goals.
Time management	Providing time frame, progress indicator, short learning units, and flexible timeline.
Management of resources and support	Providing flexible learning resources, peer-assessment, accessibilities, clear expectations, and short learning units.

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RQ3 Time Management (e.g., time advisories and estimates)



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RQ3-a. Tech Used for SDL

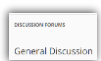
• Synchronous communication technologies

- Google Hangouts
- YouTube Live



• Asynchronous communication technologies

- Discussion forum
- Blog
- Slackbot
- Flickr



• Multimedia (e.g., video and graphics)

• Feedback technologies

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Discussion

- **SDL can be Changed**
- **MOOC Instructors can Facilitate SDL**
- **Strategies to Facilitate SDL:** A variety of strategies can be used to facilitate student SDL skills in terms of motivation, self-monitor, and self-management.
- **Tech for SDL:** Tech plays a vital role in facilitating SDL skills.
- **Tech expectations:** Adaptive learning systems, artificial intelligent systems, and learning analytics were expected to have to support SDL.

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Implications

• For MOOC instructors and Instructional Designers

- Build learning community
- Inspire intrinsic motivation
- Personalize learning



• For MOOC providers

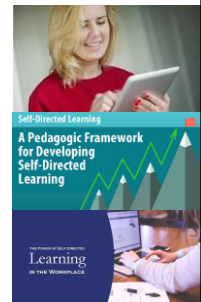
- Create a personalized learning environment
- Provide learning analytics to support learning and teaching

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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

1. Helping students set their own learning goals.
2. Building learning community.
3. Offering immediate feedback.
4. Embedding quizzes for self-assessment.
5. Providing progress indicators.
6. Providing reflection questions.
7. Designing short learning units.
8. Providing flexible timelines.
9. Highlighting estimated time frames.
10. Making available optional learning materials.



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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

1. Helping students set their own learning goals.

Example:

"I have asked, at the first page of course, why they're taking the course. So that is the goal. A lot of people say, 'I'm a teacher. And I want to do the stuff with my kids. Or I want to update my knowledge. Or I'm retired and I want to learn this.'"



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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

2. Building learning community.

Joshua from the UK mentioned: We use a lot of resources that already exist. And then we use the MOOC discussion board as a place to where they, kind of, point out and say, "I've seen this. And this is useful. Well, I use this, and this is good. I created this."



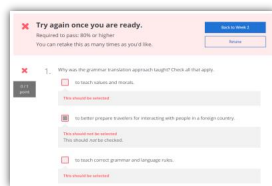
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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

3. Offering immediate feedback.

4. Embedding quizzes for self-assessment.

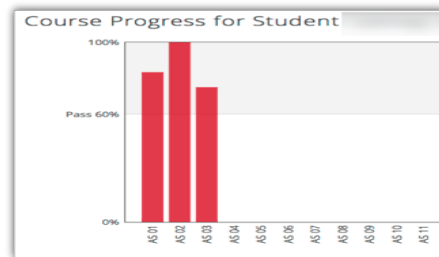


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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

5. Providing progress indicators



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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

6. Providing reflection questions.

We introduced kind of moments that video was stopped and there was a question. The student had to think of it a bit. Sometimes it was kind of a rhetorical question. There wasn't even no answer required. But it was just a pause for a while to let the student reflect. (Jacob)



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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

7. Designing short learning units.

- ✓ Video: Introduction to Regression 6 min
- ✓ Video: Introduction: Basic Least Squares 6 min

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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

8. Providing flexible timelines.

You've already completed 71% of your course! Reset your deadlines so you can finish the rest!

Reset my deadlines

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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

9. Highlighting estimated time frames.

Video: 1.2 - Popular Music and Classical Music Compared 6 min

Quiz: Popular Music and Classical Music Compared 2 questions Overdue Jun 27, 2:59 AM EDT

Video: 1.3 - Music and Emotions 4 min

Video: 1.4 - How Do We Hear Music? Sound Waves and the Ear 6 min

Quiz: How Do We Hear Music? Sound Waves and the Ear 5 questions Overdue Jun 27, 2:59 AM EDT

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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

10. Making available optional learning materials.

Reading: BASIC: A Blanket Around the Earth 10 min

Reading: ADVANCED: A Blanket Around the Earth 10 min

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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

MOOC: Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for Novel Corona virus (COVID-19) from OpenWHO (English Version)

11. Structured learning environment:

- Clearly stated the learning objectives.
- Course details stated the expected time to complete the course.
- The syllabus, number of course modules, and title of each module.



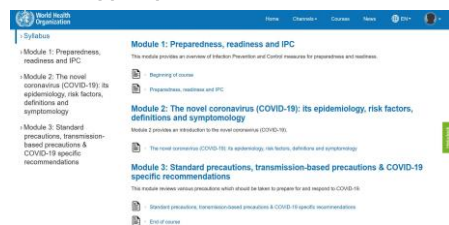
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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

11. Structure continued...

Graphic or visual organizations for essential material. The text on screen matched the narration enforcing the redundancy principle.



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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

12. On completion of modules participants get a certificate.



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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

17. Visuals showing tasks completed.

You have completed all of the assignments that are currently due.

Item	Status	Due	Weight	Grade
Week 2 Quiz	Passed	Apr 20 2:59 AM EDT	10%	100%
Week 3 Quiz	Passed	Apr 27 2:59 AM EDT	10%	100%
Week 4 Quiz	Passed	May 4 2:59 AM EDT	10%	83.33%
Week 5 Quiz	Passed	May 11 2:59 AM EDT	10%	100%
Week 6 Quiz	Passed	May 18 2:59 AM EDT	10%	100%

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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

18. Visuals showing work progress.

Start Your Final Requirement Challenge

Videos: ☐ Done

Readings: ☐ 10 min left

Practice Exercises: ☐ 30 min left

Other: ☐ 5 min left

Nothing due

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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

19. Rewirements (assignments) for putting the material to practice (e.g., Random Acts of Kindness, Make A Social Connection, Let's Get Physical, Meditate, Sleep, Gratitude Letter/Visit, Savoring, etc.)

Daily Gratitude Journal

Gratitude is a positive emotional state in which one recognizes and appreciates what one has received in life. Research shows that taking time to experience gratitude can make you happier and even healthier. **For the next seven days, you will take 5-10 minutes each night to write down five things for which you are grateful.** They can be little things or big things. But you really have to focus on them and actually write them down (Again, try to develop a tracking method works for you and utilize a note on your phone, a daily calendar, a special notebook, etc.). You can just write a word or short phrase, but as you write these things down, take a moment to be mindful of the things you're writing about (e.g., imagine the person or thing you're writing about, etc.). This exercise should take at least five minutes. Do this each night for the whole week.

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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

20. Offer community support and help.

Help Articles

[Course Help Center \(Frequently Asked Questions\)](#)

Community Mentors

Mentors are learners who generously give their time to help others work through courses they have already completed. Not all courses have mentors.

Mentors don't work for Coursera or for the institution offering the course. They just help course material, and they get to design your grade.

Community Mentor responsibilities:

- Answer learner questions in the discussion forums
- Post new threads to spark discussion
- Provide feedback to learners as well

Become a Community Mentor

When a course needs Mentors, Coursera will send email invitations to learners who we think would be good candidates.

To qualify as a good candidate you need to:

- Pass the course with a good grade
- Be active in the course by helping other learners in the forums

If you get an invitation to become a Mentor, you will be invited to take a short training course. Once you pass the training course, you will be enrolled as a Mentor in the course we invited you for.

Support for Mentors

If you're selected to be a Mentor, you'll get training materials and direct support from Coursera to help you.

If you're already a Mentor and you're having a problem or you have questions, please check our Mentor training materials.

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10 More Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

Bonus Item: Peer-graded assignments.

Opportunities for student-student interaction and social learning are provided in discussion forums and in the final assignment, a peer-graded reflection.

Peer-graded Assignment: Reflect on the Requirement Challenge

Write your peer review

Write your peer review in the discussion forum. You have 10 minutes to write your review. You can see the review of your peer review in the discussion forum.

Instructions **My submission** **Discussions**

Read the prompt writing response before you start your peer review. You have 10 minutes to write your review. You can see the review of your peer review in the discussion forum.

1. Write a response to the prompt.

2. Write a response to the prompt.

3. Write a response to the prompt.

4. Write a response to the prompt.

5. Write a response to the prompt.

Figure 20: Peer-Graded Assignment and Reflection

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Do we have time for another study?



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MOOC Study #3

International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning
Volume 19, Number 4
September - 2018

Pushing Toward a More Personalized MOOC: Exploring Instructor Selected Activities, Resources, and Technologies for MOOC Design and Implementation



Curtis J. Bonk¹, Meina Zhu², Minkyung Kim³, Shuyi Xu⁴, Naja Sabir⁵, and Annisa R. Sari^{1,2}

¹Indiana University, USA, ²University of West Florida, USA, ³Yogyakarta State University, Indonesia

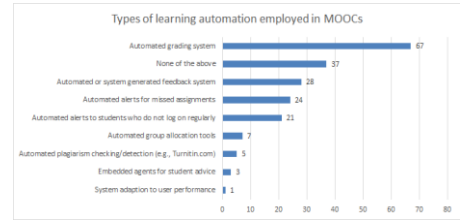
Abstract

This study explores the activities, tools, and resources that instructors of massive open online courses (MOOCs) use to improve the personalization of their MOOCs. Following email interviews with 25 MOOC

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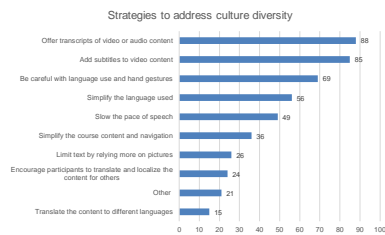
Figure 1. Number of MOOCs that offer different types of learning system automation and adaptation (n=127)



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Figure 2: MOOC instructors (n=133) instructional practices to address cultural diversity



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Table 1. Instructional Practices of MOOC Instructors to Address the Variety of Student Competencies and Needs (n=142)

Table 1

Instructional practices of MOOC instructors to address the variety of student competencies and needs (N=142)

Items	Response percent	Response count
Establish learner-based discussion forums	81.0%	115
Embed supplementary course materials	78.2%	111
Post timely course announcements and emails	63.4%	90
Record video tutorials or walkthroughs	40.8%	58
Emphasize project-based learning over exams	34.5%	49
Using preexisting online videos (e.g., Lynda.com, TED talks, YouTube, etc.)	32.4%	46
Other	26.1%	37
Hold synchronous lectures, meetings, and events (e.g., Skype, Google Hangouts, Zoom, etc.)	23.9%	34
Establish study groups	19.0%	27
Establish learner reflection journals or blogs	16.2%	23
Schedule virtual office hours and meetings	14.1%	20
Offer face-to-face meet-up opportunities	7.0%	10

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What's the Future?



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Any Questions?

Curtis Bonk: cjbonk@Indiana.edu
Meina Zhu: meinazhu@wayne.edu

Slides and Proceedings Paper at TrainingShare.com:
<http://www.trainingshare.com> (go to "Archived Talks")

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