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History of the MOOC

MOOC on MOOC
Recap: What is a MOOC?

MOOC

Every Letter in this acronym is negotiable
History of the MOOC

For purposes of history, let us look at

“Open” and “Course”, then

“Online” and “Course”
Open Course Has a Longer History

Open = easier to access, reduced or nil barrier

Implied democratization of Higher Education
Open Course and Democratization

Driving force behind the creation of the *Open University in the UK (1971)*

There are about 60 Open Universities now
Open Courses at OU’s

Distinct pedagogy

Instructional Design for self directed learning

Elaborate system to deliver learning
  - Postal services
  - Broadcast Media

Most Open U and Courses are in the Public Sector
Online Course

At some stage, the learner must connect to the network to participate

Often part of or supplementing classroom learning
Online Course

**Mostly not Open**

*Where Open, often free to browse*
- And Pay to Use (to get a certificate, for example)

Large number of players as of now
- Carnegie Mellon U’s OLI is oldest (since 2002)
- Alison.com (Ads support revenue)
- Many in China, smaller number in India (NPTEL)
“Massive” brought them together

Year 2008

Canada, University of Manitoba

- Cormier and Alexander coined the term MOOC
  - For a course by Siemens and Downes
- This was an innovation in teaching
  - Scale was important (about 2300 learners)
  - Not being instructor-led was another factor
MOOC in the Mainstream

Late 2011: Stanford AI course
MIT edX course 2012
Coursera launched in 2012
Udacity launched in 2012
- Declared in 2013 that it was focusing only on professional training

A single course drew 100 000 enrollments or more
MOOC in the Media

New York Times:
2012- Year of the MOOC

The Economist:
2013- the Attack of the MOOCs
2014- Creative Destruction
MOOCs Expand Globally

FutureLearn (UK)

Iversity (Germany)

France University Numerique (FUN)

Veduca (Brazil)

Xuetangx (China)

NPTEL Open Course (India)

Open2Study (Australia)
MOOCs Expand Globally

*MOOC on Dementia (Tasmania, Australia)*

*MOOC on Mobiles for Development (M4D)*
To Conclude…

- MOOC acronym can have many interpretations
- Concept of MOOC links to Open and Distance Learning
- MOOC started in Higher Education -2011
- It is expanding to professional training- 2013