OpenupEd, the first pan-European MOOCs initiative
specific features and perspectives

Ljubljana, Internet of Education 2013
12 November 2013

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Going pan-European ... with OpenupEd MOOCs

MOOCs: predominantly US
  • where it all started as of 2011
  • and ... expanded massively (Coursera, Udacity, edX)
  • some EU universities have joint US initiatives
  • new launches in UK, Australia, Germany, Spain

TIME for a European initiative!
  • nice umbrella: the EC launch ‘Opening up Education’
  • that’s why OpenupEd is our name
  • first pan-European MOOCs initiative
  • launched April 25, joint press release EADTU & EC
  • European values: Equity, Quality, and Diversity
OpenupEd partnership

- from the EU: France, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, the UK
- outside of the EU, from: Russia, Turkey, Israel

- planning to join, from: Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, France (+1), Greece, Ireland, Poland (2x), Slovenia, Spain (+1)

- Open to other potential partners (> 20 requests)
OpenupEd framework of 8 features

1. Openness to learners
2. Digital openness
3. Learner centered approach
4. Independent learning
5. Media-supported interaction
6. Recognition options
7. Quality focus
8. Spectrum of diversity

Not meant to be a strict order but rather to give general guidance
OpenupEd partnership: decentralized model ...

Institutions themselves are leading

OpenupEd central communication portal, a referatory to the institutional platforms

Driven by service to learners & society (rather than by revenue)

Positioned in the public domain (not-for-profit) (rather than the private sector)
OpenupEd partnership: but centralized for quality ...

Branding: commonality in our eight features

Procedures: admission conditions and OpenupEd label
Review version of OpenupEd label available 9-11-2013

Continuous monitoring

Research and evaluation
## MOOC: number of courses (10-11-2013)

- Coursera (VS): 537 courses
- EdX (VS): 91 courses
- Udacity (VS): 28 courses
- Open2Study (AU): 32 courses
- MiriadaX (ES): 90 courses
- Futurelearn (GB): 29 courses
- Universite Numerique (Fr): 24 courses
- Iversity (D): 25 courses (2 with ECTS opp.)
- OpenupEd (EU): 174 courses (>100 ECTS opp.)

Running MOOCS on own platform (11 partners)
MOOC Map

About this site:
This site was created as a way to visualize the growth of global MOOC adoption for those institutions using one of the major MOOC platform providers. This data comes from blog posts, press releases, and course offering catalogs from each of the providers shown.
DISTRIBUTION OF MOOCs PER COUNTRY

277 EUROPEAN MOOCs

Source: openeducationeuropa.eu/en/european_scoreboard_moocs; September 2013
Source: openeducationeuropa.eu/en/european_scoreboard_moocs ; October 2013
GROWTH RATE OF EUROPEAN versus NON-EUROPEAN MOOCs

Source: opendeducationeuropa.eu/en/european_scoreboard_moocs; October 2013
MOOC: platform and/vs providers

• Private companies: Coursera (VS), Udacity (VS), MiriadaX (ES), Iversity (D), ...

• Collaboration with platform: EdX (VS), Futurelearn (GB), France Université Numérique (Fr), ...

• Institutions with own platform: OpenupEd partners, Athabasca (C), ...
OpenupEd Courses

- 174 (40 at start, 80 by end of September)
- wide variety in subjects and level
- 12 languages
- scheduled or self-paced
- 20 to 200 hours of study
- recognition options
OpenupEd: some stats

Without much marketing efforts:

Stats since April 25 to 30-09-2013

• 10.5 million hits (last 4 months stable at 1.2 million)
• 125.000 unique visitors (30.000 April & May; since June 15.000)
• 7.750 newsletter registrations

• Most visits from Spain, Italy, Portugal, US, and another 35-40 countries with significant numbers of visits
Bienvenidos a **UNED Abierta**, un nuevo canal creado para facilitar la búsqueda de los contenidos educativos abiertos de la UNED.
UNED Abierta

- 20 MOOCs on own platform, partner in OpenupEd
- First run > 170,000 students (all courses > 1000)
- New run starts 11 November 2013 (1 starts 24 November)

- Self paced and scheduled
- Short courses including video lectures
- Facilitate interaction and automated feedback
- Self-tests and p2p review

- Freemium certification model: Badges; Online examination for certificate of completion and UNED Coma diploma (ECTS recognition)
UNED Abierta

• Special focus on social inclusion
• Due to the digital divide, thousands of people still lack the most basic digital competences to take advantage of this training offer, even though many international organizations point up that these skills are essential in the 21st century.

• Two dedicated MOOCs aimed at Developing teachers and students’ Digital Competences by MOOCs

1. Basic Digital Competences (14 “curators”, 4,558 participants)
2. Ict for teaching and learning (12,768 participants)
Universidade Aberta (Portugal)

- 1 experimental iMOOC on Climate Change
- According to the principle of their Virtual Pedagogical Model (a student centered approach oriented to flexible participation, social interaction, collaborative mediation, learning scaffolding, learning community sustainability and digital inclusion)

- Lasted for eight weeks, from May 6 to July 1
- Based on OER material (LECHe project)
- Pilot with 1000 students
- Including ECTS certification option (11 passed)
Universidade Aberta (Portugal)

The open course has been an opportunity to access an innovative learning experience

Connecting formal and informal learning scenarios

The challenge is to promote innovation in pedagogy for open learning in the digital society

Innovation for digital inclusion
Open University of Israel (OUI)

Four MOOCs just opened

1. *Educational Psychology* in Arabic (just started)
2. *Jews and Christians in Western Europe during the middle-Ages and Renaissance* in Russian (just started)
3. *The Modern Middle-East* in Hebrew (start 21-11)
4. *Genocide* in English (start on March 6 2014)

High quality textbooks (2 with open license) suited for self study
OpenupEd: benefits for partners

- Strong and distinctive quality brand
- Collective exposure beyond national borders
- Visibility and marketing potential
- Opportunity to join cross-national projects with external funding
- Opportunity to engage with the expertise and experience in the OpenupEd partnership
- Annual state-of-the-art meeting (part of EADTU Conference)
- Explore further extension of ‘opening up education’ at the institution
OpenupEd: six conditions to join

- Position in national HE structure including QA & Accreditation
- Institutional endeavour with evidence of QA for the MOOCs
- Endorsement of the eight common features and evidence of how these are applied to the MOOCs; crucial are ‘openness to learners’ & ‘digital openness’
- OpenupEd MOOC label required at entry & periodical renewal
- The MOOC operation must be evaluated and monitored; data and results must be shared within OpenupEd partnership
- Payment of a moderate annual fee (€2,500)
OpenupEd: intentions

• Open to partnering with ‘traditional’ universities
• Reach out to other continents, in particular open universities in Africa, Asia and Latin America

• Sharing expertise with other institutions in the perspective of
• Opening up Education for all (that have the potential)
• Contribute to the modernization agenda for HE

• Showcase that MOOCs can indeed contribute to the open movement
Issues for this audience ...

- Need for country cases: OpeningUpSlovenia (OuS)?
- MOOCs being part of OuS, but in the OER perspective?
- Need to collaborate among the four Slovenian universities?
- OpenupEd as the channel & label?
- All educational sectors to be included in OuS?
- Formal education, informal learning, & lifelong learning?
- Link with industry, including SMEs?
- Research contribution in Slovenian profile?
Thank you!!!

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