



2012 - 2016



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

MOOCS

MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES



Leadership team

Professor Sir Tim O'Shea,
Principal University of Edinburgh
Professor Jeff Haywood, Vice Principal
Melissa Highton, Assistant Principal
Gavin McLachlan, CIO and Librarian
Amy Woodgate, MOOCs Project Manager

The MOOC production team

Amy Woodgate
Tim Askew
Imogen Scott
Nicol Craig
Nuria Fraile
Kara Johnston
Lucy Kendra
Andy Pryde



Studying MOOCs at University of Edinburgh

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/moocs

Number of MOOC courses: 35 (29 Live + 6 in progress)

Platforms: FutureLearn, Coursera, EdX

Total number of learners: 2,245,620

Number of academic colleagues involved: 111

Number of student tutors involved: 131



The portfolio of massive open online courses (MOOCs) from the University of Edinburgh is impressive. Over several years the range and reach of our shared knowledge has grown, with more than 2 million learners from across the globe choosing to learn online and engage with our content.

The success of this initiative is due to the hard work, enthusiasm and vision from teams across the University schools and colleges as well as strategic leadership in thinking about digital transformation and how higher education institutions can make best use of the Web.

The University has developed partnerships with the providers of international platforms and with other universities and cultural organisations to bring a richness and diversity to the courses.

We have seen benefits from those partnerships in two-way engagement to learn and share emerging practice. The University MOOCs have led the way in developing new pedagogies for public engagement, knowledge exchange and research dissemination.

Melissa Highton
Assistant Principal Online Learning

School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences

www.coursera.org/learn/philosophy

This course will introduce you to some of the main areas of research in contemporary philosophy.

Philosophers will talk you through some of the most important questions and issues in their area of expertise. We'll begin by trying to understand what philosophy is – what are its characteristic aims and methods, and how does it differ from other subjects?

Introduction to Philosophy

557,833
learners

2,444
certificates sold

Academics involved

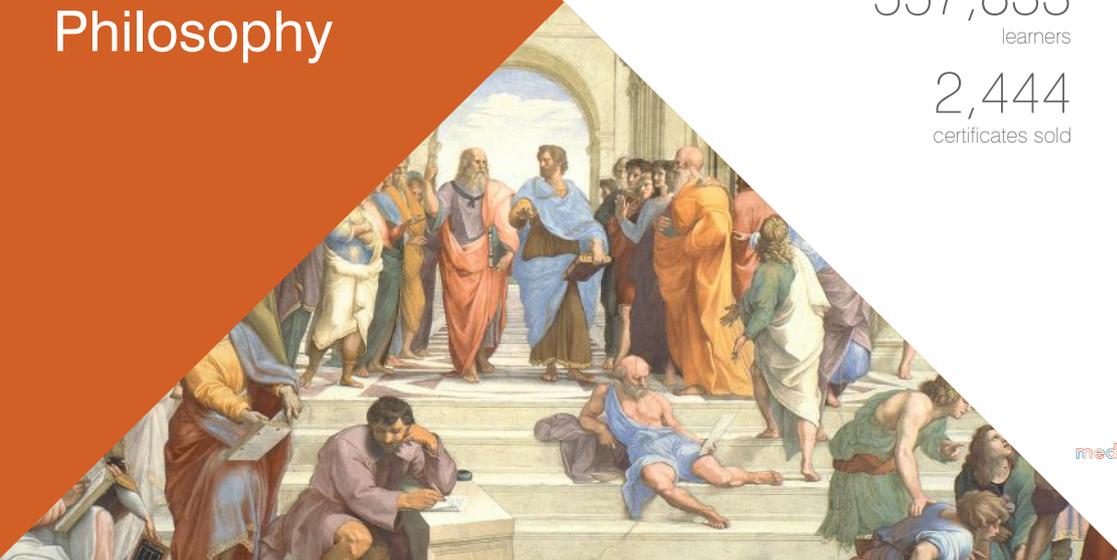
Instructors: Dr Dave Ward, Prof Duncan Pritchard, Prof Michela Massimi, Dr Suilin Lavelle, Dr Matthew Chrisman, Dr Allan Hazlett, Dr Alasdair Richmond

Teaching Staff: Nick Daniels, Simon Fokt, Jie Gao, Silvan Wittwer, Katy Mcleod, Rosa Hardt, Di Yang, Stephen Ryan, Jamie Collin, Ben Sworn

Platform: Coursera

“ The best thing about my MOOC course was meeting Daniel, an autistic teenager. Daniel would find it extremely difficult to study in a traditional classroom setting, and it was so special to see how online learning opened up a new world for him, and us.

Dr Suilin Lavelle



School of Physics and Astronomy

Academic involved

Instructor:

Prof Charles Cockell

Teaching Staff: Jesse Harrison,
Casey Bryce

Platform: Coursera

www.coursera.org/learn/astrobiology

**Learn about the origin and evolution of life
and the search for life beyond the Earth.**

178,346

learners

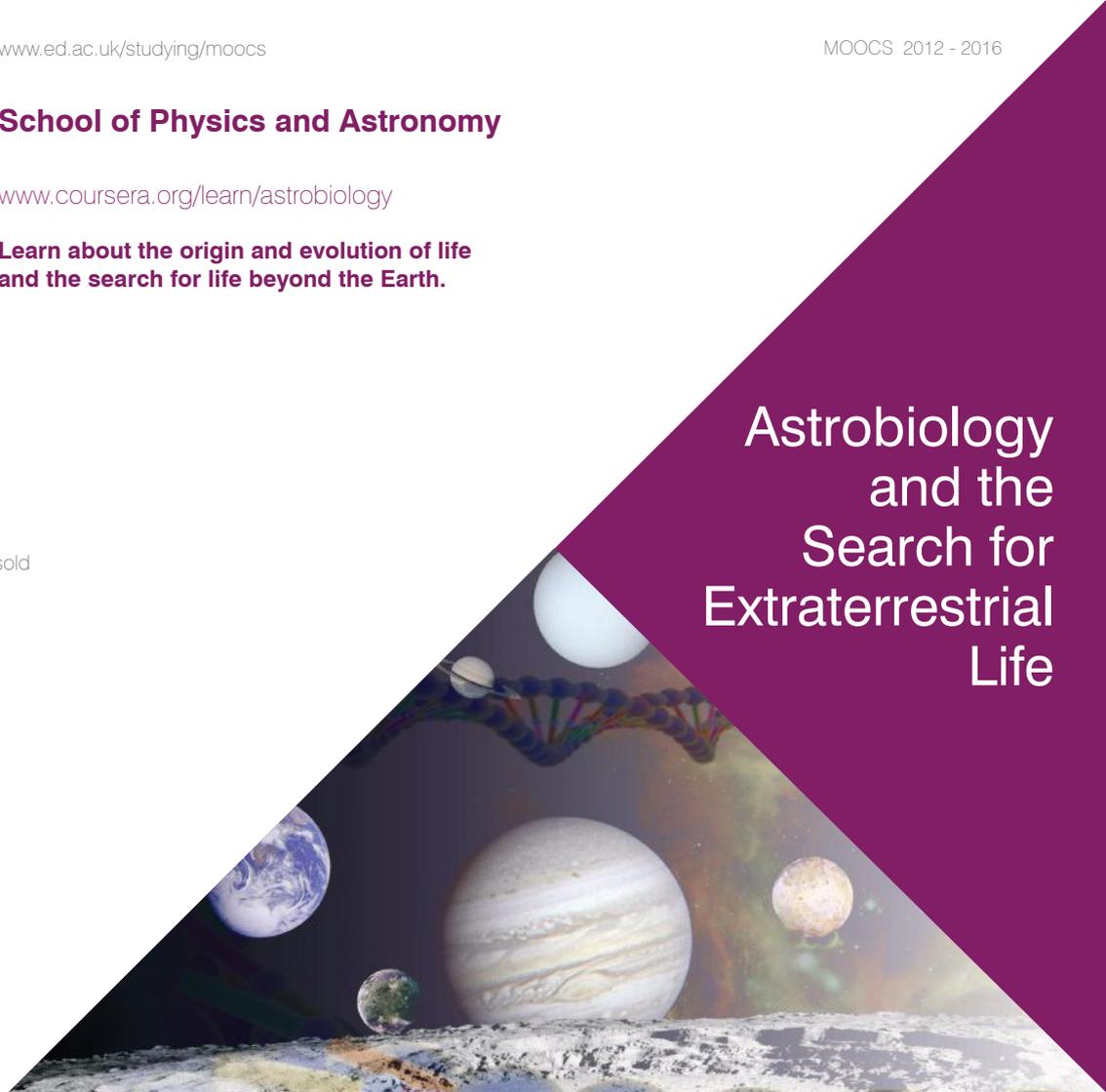
816

certificates sold

“ The opportunity to teach the same number of people astrobiology that is equivalent to 850 years intake of my undergraduate astrobiology course.

Prof Charles Cockell

Astrobiology and the Search for Extraterrestrial Life



School of Informatics

www.aiai.ed.ac.uk/project/plan/oooc/

The course aims to provide a foundation in artificial intelligence techniques for planning, with an overview of the wide spectrum of different problems and approaches, including their underlying theory and their applications.

Artificial Intelligence Planning

#aiplan
aiplaner

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Austin Tate,
Dr Gerhard Wickler

Teaching Staff: Miles Gould,
Punyanuch Borwarnginn, Herry

Platform: Coursera

113,565
learners

“ The whole framework of it was definitely conceived as, and run as, a community of people interested in a common topic, and working together and exploring that space together. I was trying to reach different communities, and not just those interested in programming.

Prof Austin Tate



Moray House School of Education

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Sian Bayne,
Dr Jeremy Knox, Dr Hamish
Macleod, Dr Jen Ross,
Dr Christine Sinclair

Teaching Staff: Hadi Mehrpouya,
Assem Berniyazova

Platform: Coursera

E-learning and Digital Cultures is aimed at teachers, learning technologists, and people with a general interest in education who want to deepen their understanding of what it means to teach and learn in the digital age.

The course is about how digital cultures intersect with learning cultures online.

94,132
learners

“ It was one of the most exhilarating, most fun and most far-reaching bits of teaching I've ever done!

Prof Sian Bayne

#edcmooc
edcmooc

E-learning & Digital Cultures



Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

This course is designed to provide knowledge of equine digestion and nutrition with emphasis placed on the health and welfare issues surrounding the inclusion of various types of feedstuffs in equine diets.

Students should feel better equipped to make judgements on rations for horses and ponies, in health and disease.

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Andrea Ellis,
Dr Jo-Anne Murray

Teaching Staff:
Anna Bergenstrahle,
Sheena Brown, Zoe Penman

Platform: Coursera

Equine Nutrition



#eqnutmooc

52,994
learners

896
certificates sold



School of Physics and Astronomy

www.futurelearn.com/courses/higgs

The discovery of a new fundamental particle at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), CERN is the latest step in a long quest seeking to answer one of physics' most enduring questions: why do particles have mass?

The experiments' much anticipated success confirms predictions made decades earlier by Peter Higgs and others, and offers a glimpse into a universe of physics beyond the Standard Model.

The Discovery of the Higgs Boson

#higgsmooc

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Luigi Del Debbio, Dr Christos Leonidopoulos

Teaching Staff: James Cockburn, Eliana Lambrou, Andreas Søgaard, Iwan Smith, Xanthe Hoad, Tracey Friday, Timothy Bristow, Paul Glaysher, Konstantina Zerva, Gordon Clayton, Dianne Ferguson, Christopher Deans

Platform: FutureLearn

25,484 learners 297 certificates sold

“Professor Higgs' research has provided us with profound insight into the building blocks of the Universe and this course will allow anyone with a computer and access to the web to take part in the exciting and revolutionary times that we live in.

Prof Arthur Trew

YouTube

CC BY-NC-ND

Moray House School of Education

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Grant Jarvie,
Richard McBrearty, Alan Hansen

Teaching Staff: Sally Anderson,
Dan Gerrard, Mark Johnson,
Neil Spiers, Neil Rankin

Platform: FutureLearn

Explore the role of football in the world today - including finances, clubs, nations and rivalries.

From street soccer to multi-million dollar transfers, from the beaches of Brazil to the fight against poverty and inequality in Africa, this free online course looks beyond the pitch, to explore football's role in society today.

19,211 learners
132 certificates sold

“ We were fortunate enough to include well known people from the world of football, such as Alan Hansen, but what was refreshing about the MOOC was its international reach.

Prof Grant Jarvie

#flfooty

Football: More than A Game

AstroTech: The Science and Technology behind Astronomical Discovery

School of Physics and Astronomy

An overview of the technology that astronomers use to collect and measure light from the universe and how it is used in practice.

Each week we will cover a different aspect of Astronomical technology, matching each piece of technology to a highlight science result. We will explain how the technology works, how it has allowed us to collect astronomical data, and, with some basic physics, how we interpret the data to make scientific discoveries.

#astrotechmooc

31,157
learners

384
certificates sold

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Andy Lawrence,
Dr Catherine Heymans

Teaching Staff: Beth Biller,
Nathan Bourne, Alastair Bruce,
Andrew Davis, Patrika Dayal,
Duncan Forgan, Richard George,
Cassandra Hall, Shaghayegh
Parsa, Lee Patrick, Rosie
Shanahan, Vanessa Smer

Platform: Coursera

“ The first run of the course was in April 2014, with 21,000 students participating. It was hard work to put together, but one of the most exciting things we have ever done - the buzz on the Forum was wonderful, and so many people seemed so grateful.

Prof Andy Lawrence,
Dr Catherine Heymans



(First week only)





Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Michela Massimi, Dr Alasdair Richmond, Dr Suilin Lavelle, Dr David Carmel, Dr Mark Sprevak, Prof Duncan Pritchard, Prof Andy Clark, Prof John Peacock, Prof Barbara Webb, Dr Kenny Smith, Dr Peggy Series

Teaching Staff: Jamie Collin, Laura Jimenez

Platform: Coursera

81,503
learners

558
certificates sold

“ Exploring interdisciplinary boundaries and cross fertilisation between sciences and humanities.

Dr Michela Massimi

YouTube media hopper

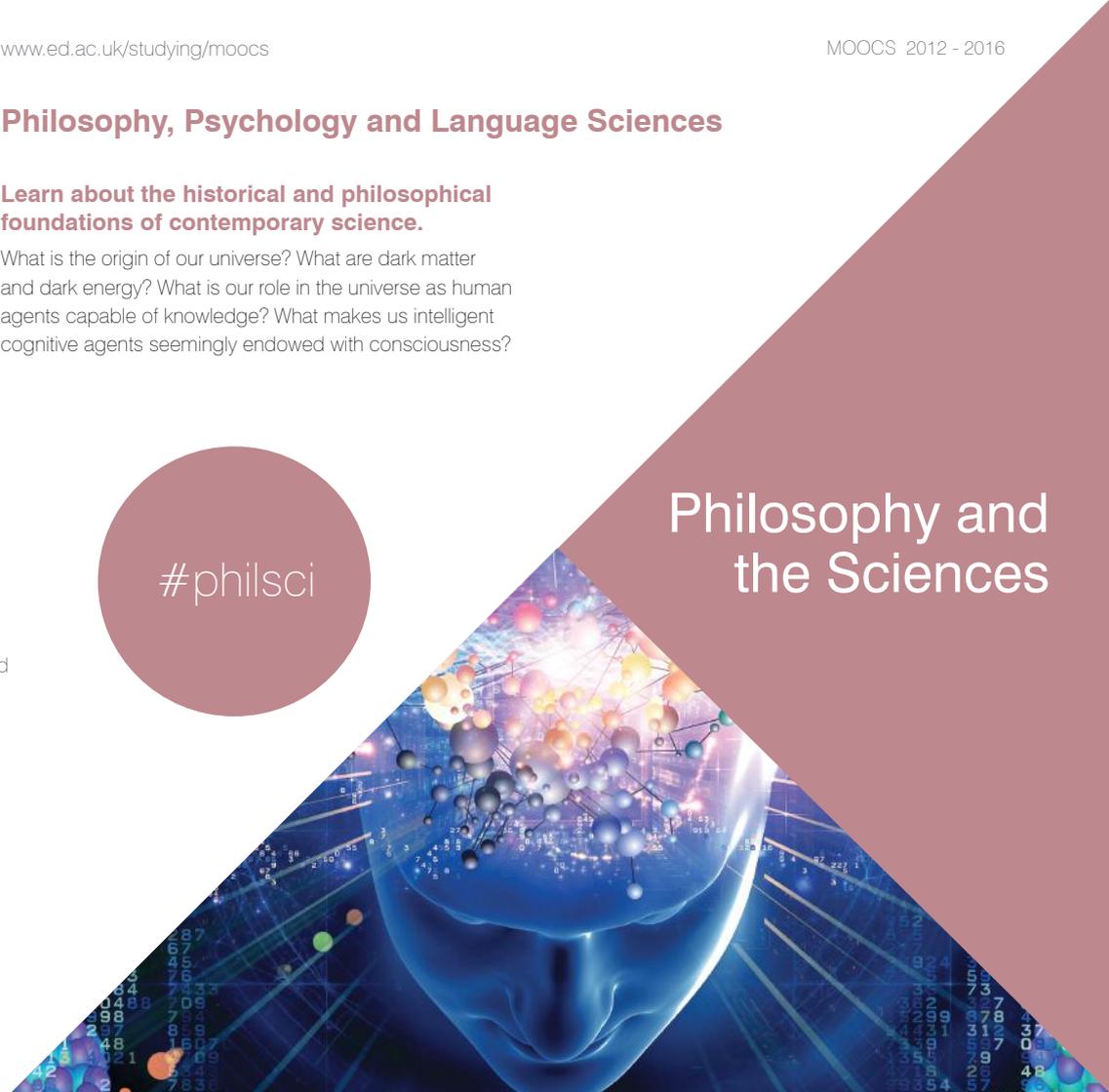
Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences

Learn about the historical and philosophical foundations of contemporary science.

What is the origin of our universe? What are dark matter and dark energy? What is our role in the universe as human agents capable of knowledge? What makes us intelligent cognitive agents seemingly endowed with consciousness?

#philsci

Philosophy and the Sciences



Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

Animal welfare has been described as a complex, multi-faceted public policy issue which includes important scientific, ethical, and other dimensions.

Improving our understanding of animal welfare, involves the fascinating study of animal behaviour as well as the challenge of accessing the emotions of animals.

Animal Behaviour and Welfare

2,267 certificates sold
110,052 learners

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Nat Waran, Dr Fritha Langford, Heather J Bacon, Miss Hayley Walters, Dr Jill MacKay

Teaching Staff: Amy Miele, Lauren Robinson, Jessica Martin, Suzanne Desire, Olivia Salazar, Carol Thomson, Susan Jarvis, Sarah Hison, Yang Qing

Platform: Coursera

“ One of the stand-out successes of the course has been its engagement with veterinary staff, animal charity workers, government and business advisers and animal volunteers internationally to help foster their professional development.

Prof Nat Waran,
Dr Fritha Langford
and Dr Jill MacKay

#edaniwelf
JMICAWE



Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Jessie Paterson, Kay Aitchison, Prof Susan Rhind, Dr Gurå Therese Bergkvist, Dr Rachel Whittington, Dr Catriona Bell, Dr Andrew Gardiner

Teaching Staff: Jill MacKay, Julie Dickson, Ruth Clements, Kirsty Hughes, Jessie Paterson, Anne Stevenson, Sharon Boyd, Joan Kulifay

Platform: Coursera

This course is for anyone interested in learning more about Veterinary Medicine, giving a 'taster' of courses covered in the first year of a veterinary degree and an idea of what it is like to study Veterinary Medicine.

#edivet

49,701

learners

697

certificates sold



EDIVET:
Do you have what
it takes to be a
veterinarian?



School of Health in Social Science

The course will cover the basic guiding principles of the Clinical Psychology of Children and Young People.

It will illustrate how theories of psychological development can be applied in understanding children and young people's mental health and well being within a wider societal and cultural context.

The Clinical Psychology of Children and Young People

#clinpsymooc

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Matthias Schwannauer, Dr Stella Chan, Dr Emily Taylor, Dr Joanne Williams

Teaching Staff: Javita Narag, Laura MacLean, Alice Thomson, Sarah Brown, Jarek Leelonkiewicz, Kasia Banas, Susanna Johnstone, Claire Banga, Eilidh Smoth

Platform: Coursera

1,575
certificates sold

88,188
learners

“ Given the global outreach of our MOOC, we had the privilege to share our learners' cultural perspectives on mental health. It was eye opening.

Dr Stella Chan

Moray House School of Education

Academics involved

Instructors: Betsy King,
Pete Higgins, Beth Christie

Teaching Staff: Chris Mackie,
Rebekah Tauritz, Claire Ramajan,
Sarah Hutcheon, Cosmo Blake

Platform: Coursera

In this course you will refine your own understanding of 'sustainability' in light of the range of definitions, contexts and educational approaches that we will discuss.

Many issues threaten the future of ourselves and other species on the planet. The most prominent of these is dangerous global climate change; and this with the over-exploitation of our lands and seas, loss of biodiversity, and over-use of manufactured chemicals, affects the stability of the global systems upon which all life depends.

Learning for Sustainability

13,990
learners

103
certificates sold

#lfsmooc
 lfsmooc



Edinburgh College of Art

This course will introduce students to the theory of music, providing them with the skills needed to read and write Western music notation, as well as to understand, analyse, and listen informedly.

This course is suitable for those who have never studied music academically. It will introduce you to the theory of Western music, providing you with the skills needed to read and write Western music notation, as well as to understand, analyse, and listen informedly.

Fundamentals of Music Theory

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Michael Edwards,
Dr Zack Moir, Richard Worth,
Dr Nikki Moran, Dr John
Philip Kitchen

Platform: Coursera

947 certificates sold 175,215 learners

“ So rewarding and transforming - the team efforts behind the video lectures, the global impact, the connection with such diverse students.

Dr Nikki Moran

#edmusictheory
musictheorymoooc

Edinburgh College of Art

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Glyn Davis

Teaching Staff: Victoria Horne,
Ian Rothwell

Platform: Coursera

An introduction to the life and work of Andy Warhol, one of the world's most famous artists, through exploration of five thematic framings of his life and career: celebrity, sex, money, death and time.

41,484

learners

160

certificates sold

#warholmooc
warholmooc

Warhol

“ The success of the Warhol MOOC - and the enthusiasm of those taking part - has been extraordinary. The participants are of all ages and backgrounds, and from all over the world.

Dr Glyn Davis



School of Social and Political Science

Understand the Scottish independence poll,
and the pros and cons of a 'Yes' or 'No' vote.

Towards Scottish Independence? Understanding the Referendum

#edindyref

indyrefmooc

Academics involved

Instructors: Prof Charlie Jeffery,
Dr Alan Convery, Prof Nicola
McEwen

Teaching Staff: Cera Murtagh,
Charlotte Snelling

Platform: FutureLearn

9,485
learners

“ We will place learners at the heart of the referendum question by examining arguments for and against independence, with lively debate guided by university academics. We will also ensure a distinct international dimension, by examining implications for other nations and regions whose populations have expressed desire for greater autonomy, including Catalonia, Flanders and Quebec.

Prof Charlie Jeffery



Centre for Integrative Physiology

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr John Menzies

Teaching Staff: Amy Warnock,
Jorge Maicas, Catherine Humes

Platform: Coursera

Nudge-it is an multi-disciplinary European research project studying new ways of establishing and reinforcing healthy eating habits. Join us to learn about eating, appetite and obesity.

In this course we will discuss the facts and misconceptions around obesity, and the gaps in the scientific knowledge. We will describe new approaches to the treatment and prevention of obesity, and give you the opportunity to reflect on your own knowledge and assumptions around the causes of obesity.

18,725
learners

186
certificates sold

“ We used audio-only media in a recent MOOC to discuss finer aspects of the course material in what we hoped was an engaging and accessible way. These media were well-received by many students, who were able to access material outside the normal learning environment.

Dr John Menzies

#nudgeitmooc
nudgeit_



Nudge it: Understanding Obesity

School of Informatics

Have you ever wished you knew how to program, but had no idea where to start from?

This course will teach you how to program in Scratch, an easy to use visual programming language. More importantly, it will introduce you to the fundamental principles of computing and it will help you think like a software engineer.

Code Yourself! An Introduction to Programming

#codeyourself



code yourself !

Academics involved

Instructors: Inés Friss de Kereki, Areti Manataki

Teaching Staff: Liliana Pino, Plinio Gañi, Victor Paulos, Vitimir Kovanovic, Dave Cochran, Ludovica Luisa Vissat, Hadi Mehrpooya, Sander Keemink, Maria Astefanoaei

Platform: Coursera

612 148,429
certificates sold learners

“ One of the success factors for this course has been the input that we’ve had from a wide range of people, from academics and teachers, to children, parents and code clubs. Reusing the MOOC material for new initiatives, such as the Code Yourself! workshop at the Edinburgh Science Festival, has also proved invaluable.

Dr Areti Manataki





Academics involved

Instructors: Inés Friss de Kereki,
Areti Manataki

Teaching Staff: Liliana Pino,
Plinio Gañi, Víctor Paulos

Platform: Coursera

School of Informatics

Have you ever thought about creating your own computer games, but had no idea how or where to start?

This course will teach you how to program using Scratch, a language very easy to use visual programming, and more importantly, you will learn the fundamentals of the computer to start thinking as a software engineer.



87,422

learners

231

certificates sold

A Programar! Una introducción a la programación (Spanish)



¡a programar!



School of Social and Political Science

Learn about the UK's 2015 general election: how does the system work, what is at stake, and how will it affect you?

This course provides an overview of the United Kingdom's 2015 general election. Join us right up to and through election night as we explore the politics, issues and numbers that give British politics its enduring appeal.

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Alan Convery

Teaching Staff:

Charlotte Snelling, Anthony Salamone, Francesco Bertoldi

Platform: Coursera

Understanding the UK's 2015 General Election

4,550
learners

#ge15ed

“ We hope to encourage the kinds of online spaces that participants can both contribute to and take ownership of. Participatory practices and customs in the wider social web are integral to this approach, and we're interested in how the pedagogical modes operating within MOOC platforms can be productively extended to create more open learning spaces, integrating our work with public services and sites beyond the platform.

Prof Sian Bayne



School of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Liz Grant, Dr Anne Aboaja, Dr Selena Gleadow Ware

Teaching Staff: Ella Wigmore, Emma Neilson, Catherine Bois, Ai Oishi, Parisa Mansoori, Katie Marwick, Narinder Bansal

Platform: Coursera, FutureLearn

Mental illness can affect anyone. It is an important cause of disability worldwide.

However the pathways to receiving adequate and humane mental health care vary within countries and between countries. This mental health inequity is a challenge to be explored and overcome in order to attain better health for all nations. Participating in this course is a step towards overcoming this global challenge.

8,462
learners

135
certificates sold

#mhglobalmooc

Mental Health: A Global Priority



Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

The course looks at the behavioural and physiological indicators that can be used to assess welfare in chickens kept in hobby flocks through to commercial farms.

The course is likely to be of interest to people who own chickens as pets or keep a small hobby flock, commercial egg and chicken meat producers, veterinarians and vet nurses.

Academics involved

Instructors: Dr Victoria Sandilands

Teaching Staff: Laura Dixon,
Krysta Morrissey

Platform: Coursera

Chicken Behaviour and Welfare

#chickenmoooc
srucresearch
srucresearch

23,562
learners

383
certificates sold





Academics involved

Instructors: Christine McLean,
A Morrison-Low

Teaching Staff: Kirke Kook,
Sheila Masson

Platform: Coursera

Moray House School of Education

Explore the Victorian craze for photography and examine its history, from the earliest images in 1839.

This is a course aimed at introducing you to the history of photography in the 19th century. It combines theory with practice, giving you the option to respond to some of the iconic images we will explore, and to create and share your own images.

7,522

learners

71

certificates sold

“ With increased learner autonomy and the very rapid growth of informal learning supported via MOOCs and Open Educational Resources (OERs). I am delighted by the way that my colleagues at Edinburgh have positioned us so very strongly in the use of these new approaches and in fundamental research on how we may best serve the learners of the future.

Prof Tim O'Shea

#vicphotomooc

Photography: A Victorian Sensation



Moray House School of Education



Following its presentation to the world at the Great Exhibition in London in 1851, the stereoscope – a device that makes images appear 3D – mesmerised Victorians. Collecting and viewing stereo photographs became a craze.

This course explores how the stereoscope, originally created by inventor Sir Charles Wheatstone to investigate human binocular vision, was improved by scientist Sir David Brewster, to become a vital, elaborate drawing room essential.

Academics involved

Instructors: Christine McLean

Teaching Staff: Sheila Masson

Platform: Coursera, FutureLearn

85 certificates sold
2,988 learners

Stereoscopy: An introduction to Victorian Stereo Photography

#fstereoscropy

“Running a MOOC is a fantastic way of truly working ‘beyond the museum walls’, a key part of the remit of our Community Engagement team, a high impact project reaching a wide audience around the world. I feel the MOOC managed to raise awareness of our work, our collections and our expertise.

Christine McLean



School of Social and Political Science

2016 was an exciting year for elections in the United Kingdom. There were elections to the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly in May.

Both of these institutions have a significant impact on people's lives in Scotland and Wales: they control big public policy issues like health, education and transport.

Academics involved

Instructors: Alan Convery, Nicola McEwen, Charlie Jeffrey

Teaching Staff: Francesco Bertoldi, Anthony Salamone

Platform: FutureLearn

Scotland and
Wales Vote 2016:
Understanding
the Devolved
Elections

#swvote16

2,651
learners

10
certificates sold

School of Social and Political Science

Academics involved

Instructors: Anthony Salamone,
Laura Cram, Charlie Jeffery

The UK held a referendum on whether to stay in or to leave the European Union on 23 June 2016.

The EU can often be confusing and the UK's relationship with the EU over the years has been complicated. Join us as we explore one of the biggest decisions facing the UK in a generation.

Platform: FutureLearn

10,789
learners

44
certificates sold

“ Our EU referendum MOOC enabled us to bring together academic insight and innovative learning techniques to explore complex topics, in real time, in an engaging and accessible way for our participants.

Anthony Salamone



Towards Brexit? The UK's EU Referendum



School of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences

Physical inactivity and sedentariness are “silent killers”.

Do you feel like you spend too much time sitting?
Do you feel like you would like to be more active?
Are you unsure about how to incorporate physical activity into your daily life? We are here to help.
Join us on a journey to learn on how to sit less, and become more active.

Sit Less,
Get Active

Academics involved

Instructors: Danijela Gašević,
Graham Baker, Andrew Murray,
Chris Oliver, Helen Ryall

Teaching Staff: Tessa Strain,
Kirsty Baird, Yvonne Laird

Platform: Coursera

90
certificates sold

69,440
learners

#getactivemooc
getactivemooc

“ That learning experience was more precious than any knowledge I gained from a book, and I am grateful to people I spoke with for their trust.

Dr Danijela Gasevic

School of Social and Political Science



This MOOC will help you engage constructively in the wellbeing movement, and use wellbeing considerations to make important transformations to your work and your ways of planning, learning and justifying your decisions.

Since the financial crisis, there has been an increased interest in moving away from GDP and wealth as measures of national and individual performance. Instead, more explicit attention is being paid to wellbeing around the world, and how we can promote it at individual, local, national and international levels or impact.

Academics involved

Instructors: Elke Heins, Jan Eichhorn, Neil Thin

Teaching Staff: Christina McMellon, Ilona Suojanen

Platform: FutureLearn

Social Wellbeing

#flwellbeing

“ 4 years on, and stronger than ever before, it is clear the benefit of engaging with MOOCs is far greater than just reaching globally, it provides us with reach to impact learning, teaching and research locally too.

Amy Woodgate, Project Manager

Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

Academics involved

Instructors: Hayley Walters,
Heather J Bacon, Natalie Waran,
Amy Miele

Teaching Staff: Rob Ward, Carol
Thompson

Platform: Coursera

The Dog and Cat MOOC will be an On-Demand course divided into five topics, covering the history, behavioural ecology, behaviour and physiology, behaviour management methods, welfare issues, dealing with problem pets and the use of dogs and cats for therapy.

It will also incorporate a novel 'Science You Can Try' theme with videos demonstrating safe and welfare-friendly practical demonstrations of animal science, some of which can be conducted at home to enable viewers to learn more about animal behaviour and welfare (e.g. slow blinking cats and Yawning dogs).

“ My colleagues and I have been watching MOOC developments since their earliest days, aware that they offer interesting opportunities to explore new educational spaces in which the scale goes way beyond large on-campus classes, and where assessment has to be thought about differently. By producing a MOOC all these people come together in the same place to give a combination of a structured learning process and a community.

Prof Jeff Haywood

Cats and Dogs
(coming soon)



Institute for Academic Development



This course will provide an insight into what it means to effectively manage an online presence (digital footprint) and why this is important.

The course will focus on the different dimensions of a digital footprint, including developing an effective online presence, managing your privacy, creating opportunities for networking, and greater relevance or impact.

Academics involved

Instructors: Louise Connelly,
Nicola Osborne

Platform: Coursera

Digital Footprint
(coming soon)

#dfmooc

“As a truly global university, we seek to benefit society as a whole. We build on a long and proud history of advancing knowledge for the public good – from our foundation in 1583, through our flourishing of talent and sceptical enquiry in the Enlightenment of the 18th century to the present day. As one of the world’s top universities, the breadth and depth of our scholarship, learning and teaching and our entrepreneurial and creative culture enables us to make a positive difference to people’s lives – both close to home and globally.

University of Edinburgh Strategic Vision 202

**DIGITAL
FOOTPRINT**



School of Economics

Academics involved

Instructors: Donald George, Juliette Summers (St Andrews University) David Erdal (St Andrews), Rick Woodward, Jelte Harnmeijer

Teaching Staff: Adolfo Mejia Montero, Carmelo Pavierna, Fiona Wainwright

Platform: Edx

Most Western societies are proud of being political democracies, but democracy rarely operates within the firm.

There is widespread interest around the world in cooperatives as an alternative to the capitalist corporation, particularly since the financial crash of 2008. Economics and other social sciences can focus and sharpen the debate on cooperatives. Having taken the course, students will be better placed to participate in public discussion on cooperatives, or to join a cooperative or even start a new one.

“ Our MOOC, on worker-owned and -controlled firms is still at the build stage. It's given me the chance to work with excellent colleagues from different disciplines, based at three different institutions, who have similar interests to me. Not to mention the superb MOOC production people, who clearly have the patience of saints, which is clearly necessary for the task of explaining new teaching technologies to baffled academics.

Donald George

Economic Democracy: The Cooperative Alternative (coming soon)



School of Mathematics

Data is everywhere, from the media to the health sciences, and from financial forecasting to engineering design. It drives our decisions, and shapes our views and beliefs. But how can we make sense of it?

This course introduces some of the key ideas and methods of statistics, the discipline that allows us to analyse and interpret the data that underpins modern society.

In this course, you will explore the key principles of statistics for yourself, using interactive applets, and you will learn to interpret and evaluate statistical data encountered in everyday life.

Academics involved

Instructors: Mairi Walker,
Ruth King, Chris Sangwin

Platform: Edx

**Statistics:
Unlocking the
World of Data**
(coming soon)

#statsx

“The University of Edinburgh is undergoing a digital transformation, we aim to be a world leader in online learning and to offer an outstanding student experience to as diverse a group of students as possible.

Gavin MacLachlan, CIO

School of History, Classics and Archaeology

Academics involved

Instructors: Frank Cogliano,
David Silkenat, Fabian Hilfrich,
Robert Mason

Platform: Coursera

This MOOC seeks to deploy the expertise of Edinburgh historians in order to inform public debate about the US elections of 2016.

The subject matter of each week connects with original research being undertaken at the university; each week there will be an exploration of a landmark election campaign, alongside consideration of longer-term developments in American politics, as well as connections between history and present-day events.

“ We make our MOOCs for reputation, for fun, to try new ways of teaching, not for money. Online learning is an increasingly important method of teaching, opening up high-quality education opportunities to people around the world, we now see MOOCs as a powerful tool in our widening participation armoury.

Prof Tim O'Shea

The Making of
the American
President
(coming soon)



Introduction to Philosophy
Astrobiology and the Search for Extraterrestrial Life
Artificial Intelligence Planning
E-learning & Digital Cultures
Equine Nutrition
Critical Thinking in Global Challenges
The Discovery of the Higgs Boson
Football: More Than A Game
AstroTech: The Science and Technology behind Astronomical Discovery
Philosophy and the Sciences
Animal Behaviour and Welfare
EDIVET: Do you have what it takes to be a veterinarian?
The Clinical Psychology of Children and Young People
Learning for Sustainability: Developing a personal ethic
The Fundamentals of Music Theory
Warhol
Towards Scottish Independence? Understanding the Referendum
Nudegit: Understanding Obesity
Code Yourself! An introduction to programming
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