11. MAKING THE MOST OF MOOCs

What is it?

MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Course. It's massive because it can have tens of thousands of learners. It's open because anybody can join, there are no specific pre-requisites or qualifications to join these courses. They are online courses and therefore they are accessible to everyone.

MOOCs usually have a combination of videos, articles, discussions and exercises. Some MOOCs may also have peer-evaluated assignments and assessments.

Top five reasons for doing a MOOC

1. Get insights from latest research on MOOCs that are offered by leading universities and global education providers.

2. Connect and share best practices with teachers from around the world.

3. Take advantage of self-paced learning: do as much as you'd like when it is convenient for you. There are no fixed times.

4. Gain recognition for your learning by getting a certificate of achievement. These are available by opting for a paid version of the course.

5. Get practical ideas you can implement in your classroom.

In 2017 ▶ **81** million learners enrolled in ▶ **9400** courses offered by over ▶ **800** universities

(*Source*: Class Central)

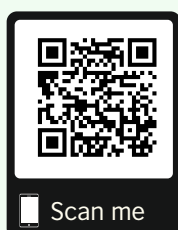# Making the most of MOOCs

Finding MOOCs

There are several MOOC providers. Here are some to get you started.

- Education MOOCs on Coursera.

- Education and teacher training MOOCs on edX.
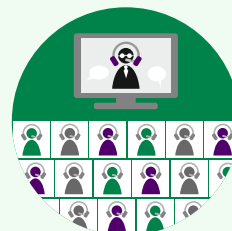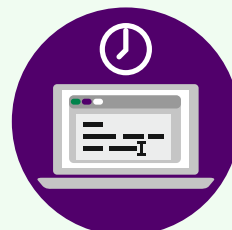
- British Council MOOCs on FutureLearn.

coursera

edX

Future Learn

Scan this QR code to check the FutureLearn website.

Scan me

Strategies to focus your MOOC learning

- Block time every week to complete your MOOC learning for the week. Make a 'to do' list so that you know what all needs to be done. You can also use an app on your phone to set reminders.

- Record and reflect on your learning with a MOOC journal. If you prefer, you could use an online or app-based journal tool such as OneNote, EverNote or Penzu.

- Engage with other learners, educators and course moderators by participating in discussions, replying to comments, liking/upvoting and bookmarking.

This guide is linked to the British Council CPD Framework for Teachers.

It develops the professional practice:
Integrating ICT:
- Developing effective strategies for locating appropriate digital content
- Promoting autonomous learning by exploiting digital content and technologies inside and outside of the formal learning environment

Stage: Understanding