MOOCs

(Massive Open Online Courses)

A Guide for Librarians

Discover a new way to improve your knowledge and skills!

MOOCs are courses available online, typically free, that expand access to quality education.

They are a unique opportunity to learn a new subject, upgrade job skills, get a professional certification and receive academic credit.

MOOCs are:

- Open to anyone with an internet connection.
- Offered in different fields of study from high-tech science to food management.
- Backed by major institutions and the world's leading universities.
- Available in numerous languages.
- Accessible any time, any place.

Libraries are uniquely positioned to provide access to quality academic materials thru MOOCs.
In developing countries[1], for every additional year of education an individual's future income is increased by an average of 10%.

What can librarians do?

Hold information sessions on MOOCs

Boost users' digital skills

Show users how to download MOOC applications on their mobile devices

Host MOOC users support groups

Help online learners identify relevant course content

Share the experience: try one yourself!

Offer activities related to MOOC content like "English language night at the Library"

16% of library users in the US say they took an online class or completed an online certification program at the library.[2]

Create a MOOC user group!

1. Identify a topic relevant for your community
2. Invite users to enroll
3. Reserve a few computers for MOOC users
4. Hold conversation groups to share the experience

[1] Source: Center for Global Development. "Education and The Developing World." CGDEV.Org. Accessed April 8, 2014.

[2] Source: http://libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/01/22/library-services/

Sign up and take a MOOC!
Here are some platforms to choose from:

coursera
https://www.coursera.org/

Coursera is an education platform that partners with top universities and organizations worldwide to offer courses online for anyone.

edX
https://www.edx.org/

Founded by Harvard University and MIT in 2012, edX is an online learning destination and MOOC provider, offering high-quality courses from the world's best universities and institutions to learners everywhere.

UDACITY
https://www.udacity.com

Udacity offers a range of online courses from Entrepreneurship, Design and Math to Physics and Genomics.
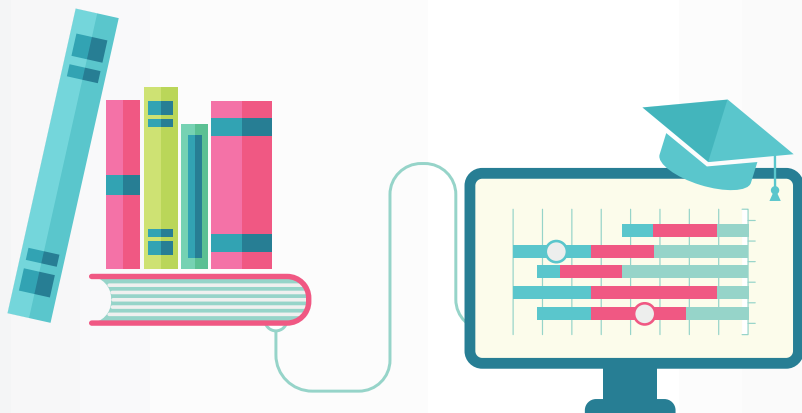
miríada X
https://www.miriadax.net/

Miriada X offers Spanish language courses from leading Latin American institutions.

Additional information

Funded by:

Implemented by:

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About The Advancing MOOCs for Development Initiative
https://www.irex.org/projects/amdi