



Open online courses for global learning: promoting engagement through openness

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- Background and context of study
- Literature review
- Methodology
- Findings and discussion
- Recommendations

Background and context of study

Master's research project (UCL IOE)
Researcher separately leads
development of online education at
UCL



Literature review: open online courses

Definitions:
MOOCs, MCs,
and
development
models

Reach: open
ed, populations
served, and
CPD

Global learning:
developing
contexts and
engagement
barriers

Research questions

Three RQs: opportunities, challenges, and strategies for development of OOCs



Methodology

Sampling criteria: delivery via FutureLearn with >33% learners from LMICs

Platform demographic data and semi-structured interviews

Flexible thematic coding and analysis

Course/ participant profiles

Disciplines: public health, education, and international development

Courses: Africa (1), Europe (2), South American (1); 7 interview participants

Mean of 58% from 'developing' contexts and 8.5% from LDCs

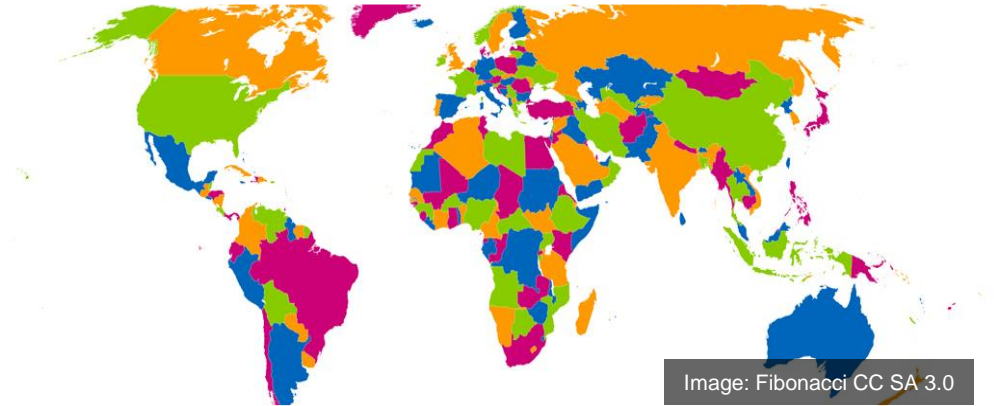
Findings and discussion

Q3 What strategies are being used to promote global learners' engagement with open online courses?

Thinking about... Learners

Impossible to cater for everyone

Beware cultural/
contextual assumptions



Thinking about... Content development

Practical interventions for inclusivity, e.g. UDL, inclusive imagery

Open licensing to ensure opportunity to reuse, remix, adapt

Contextual awareness, e.g. co-design, lived experience, real world examples

Thinking about... Learning design

Design of OOCs comes with significant responsibility

“The MOOC [is] so ambitious... We must be humble and responsible for our actions much more than ever... We can't use a jargon that won't be understood. We must have in mind that we are global, but diverse.” C3P5

Thinking about... Learning design

Reflexive pedagogies

Open/flexible design strategies

“Our initial approach was to try and design for things, like oh let's make... Or try to encourage people... Now we say let's not encourage them to do anything, it's to offer them options... As many as you can to respond in a way that seems most appropriate to them.”

C2P3

Recommendations

Q3 What strategies are being used to promote global learners' engagement with open online courses?

Learner
archetypes

Inclusive
content
development

Open
educational
practices



Questions?
Dissertation at:

