

Am I smart enough to participate in a MOOC?

As I'm attending a Massive Open Online Course since October 2011, together with more than 2500 other learners, I got deep insights into mobile learning. In 2008 the Canadian eLearning experts George Siemens and Stephen Downes developed these so-called MOOCs with thousands of participants. According to George Siemens technology and connection making are the bases of learning in the digital age. In his concept of "connectivism" he states that (online) learning occurs in quickly changing environments where the learners have to rapidly decide about the value of new information and further develop their learning strategies (Siemens 2005).

In the actual Change MOOC each week another expert prepares texts to read, discusses his or her experience in two online sessions and defines some tasks. According to the concept behind the MOOC the course facilitators "aggregate" all kind of materials in a website and summarize new content in "The Daily". The participants "remix" what they have watched or read and share their content with others. They "repurpose" ideas, concepts, and materials of the Change MOOC for their own work and "feed" their work "forward" using common tags.

I'm struggling to organize my MOOC experience via social bookmarks, a blog, microblogging, document sharing, and groups in social networks. I try to follow some of the other learners and I'm feeling connected with the mass of learners. In addition to the contents of the MOOC I need time to reflect my learning, to weave my experiences with theories of learning and knowledge management.

Change MOOC How to (2011): How This Course Works <http://change.mooc.ca/how.htm> [viewed 17-01-2012]

The Mooc Guide <https://sites.google.com/site/themoocguide/home> kuratiert von Stephen Downes [viewed 04-02-2012]

Siemens, Georg (2005). Connectivism: A Learning Theory for the Digital Age, International Journal of Instructional Technology and Distance Learning, Vol. 2 No. 1, Jan 2005, http://www.itdl.org/Journal/Jan_05/article01.htm [viewed 20-11-2011]