


EdX

edX

	
Web address	www.edx.org ^[1]
Commercial?	No
Type of site	Online education
Registration	Required
Available language(s)	English
Owner	MIT & Harvard University
Created by	Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University
Launched	April 2012
Alexa rank	▲ 9,355 (January 2013[2]) ^[1]
Current status	Active

edX is a massive open online course platform founded by Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University to offer online university-level courses in a wide range of disciplines to a worldwide audience at no charge. The two institutions have each contributed \$30 million of resources to the nonprofit project. edX launched in Fall 2012 and builds on MITx, a similar project launched by MIT in December 2011. ^[3]


The "learning platform" will be developed as open-source software and made available to other institutions of higher learning that want to make similar offerings. edX announced a plan ^[4] to open source all the code by summer 2013. You'll find the initial software components on github. ^[5] There are plans to allow other schools to offer courses on the edX website also. Plans are to create online learning software that moves beyond videos of lectures to interactive experience. ^[1] For a modest fee certificates of successful completion will be offered but not course credit Neither MIT nor Harvard students may take the online courses for credit; they will be used to enrich their learning experience. ^[1] In addition to educational offerings the project will be used to research learning and distance education. ^{[1][1]}

Anant Agarwal of MIT will lead the project with Alan M. Garber, Provost of Harvard University, assisted by Michael D. Smith, a computer scientist who is Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, handling Harvard contributions. Seven courses are planned for the initial offering in fall 2012. ^[1] The design of a viable business model for sustainability of the enterprise is in progress. ^[1]

History

External audio















 Interview with edX President Anant Agarwal ^[6] [17:47] on the first anniversary of edX, Degree of Freedom ^[1]

The low-cost online education industry was pioneered by several major players, including the for-profit university Udacity (at the time, Know Labs), founded by David Stavens and Sebastian Thrun, which launched a course mirroring the Stanford AI course in the fall of 2011. Coursera, a VC-backed commercial venture, was launched shortly after Udacity, initially with two Stanford courses, and now offers courses from many universities. In addition, edX follows a number of non-certificate-granting programs, including Khan Academy, MIT OpenCourseWare, and Carnegie Mellon University's Open Learning Initiative.

Earlier projects offering university level courses online, "Fathom" developed by Columbia University, failed in 2003 and AllLearn in 2006. ^[1] The AllLearn project was a consortium of Stanford, Yale and Oxford Universities. This was an ambitious online learning project which provided 110 high-quality enrichment courses from Oxford, Stanford, and Yale Universities for modest fees to over 10,000 participants from seventy countries. ^{[7][8]}

Participating educational institutions

As of May, 2013, there are 27 institutions involved in edX: ^[9]

<p> United States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berklee College of Music • Boston University • Cornell University • Davidson College • Georgetown University • Harvard University • Massachusetts Institute of Technology • Rice University • University of California, Berkeley • University of Texas System • University of Washington • Wellesley College 	<p> Australia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian National University • University of Queensland <p> Belgium:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Université catholique de Louvain <p> Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McGill University • University of Toronto <p> China:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peking University • Tsinghua University <p> Hong Kong:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hong Kong University of Science and Technology • University of Hong Kong 	<p> Germany:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical University Munich <p> Japan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoto University <p> Netherlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delft University of Technology <p> South Korea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seoul National University <p> Sweden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karolinska Institute <p> Switzerland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
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Courses

The first course, 6.002x: *Circuits and Electronics*, was initially offered by MITx in March 2012.

Additional courses are offered starting Fall 2012 from MIT, Harvard, and other partners.

Courses offered for Fall 2012

- 3.091x: *Introduction to Solid State Chemistry*^[10]
- 6.00x: *Introduction to Computer Science and Programming*.^[11] San José State University(SJSU) partnered with edX to offer this course as a blended (or flipped) course at SJSU.^[12]
- CS169.1x: *Software as a Service*^[13]
- 6.002x: *Circuits and Electronics*^[14]
- PH207x: *Health in Numbers: Quantitative Methods in Clinical & Public Health*^[15] Prof. Marcello Pagano (Professor of Statistical Computing, Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University) and Earl Francis Cook (Professor of Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) and at the Harvard Medical School) are teachers / mentors for this course.^[16] The course will end on Jan 2013.

Courses concluded after Fall 2012

- CS188.1x: *Artificial Intelligence*^[17] This course was completed and certificates were dispatched to all successful candidates during November 2012. Another offering of the same course will be available in Spring 2013 and a follow-up course CS188.2x will be offered in Fall 2013. The first offering of the follow-up course will be made available only to successful candidates of CS188.1x.
- CS50x: *Introduction to Computer Science I*^[18]

New Courses offered for Spring 2013

Please note that this list is incomplete.

- 3.091x: *Introduction to Solid State Chemistry*^[19]
- 7.00x: "Introduction to Biology - The Secret of Life"^[20]
- 8.02x: *Electricity and Magnetism*
- 14.73x: *The Challenges of Global Poverty*^[21]

References

- [1] <https://www.edx.org/>
- [2] <http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=EdX&action=edit>
- [3] MIT press release, Dec. 19 2011 (<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2011/mitx-education-initiative-1219.html>)
- [4] Stanford University to Collaborate with edX on Development of Non-Profit Open Source edX Platform, (<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/stanford-university-to-collaborate-with-edx-on-development-of-non-profit-open-source-edx-platform-201213681.html>)
- [5] source code repository on github (<https://github.com/edx>)
- [6] <http://degreeoffreedom.org/interview-with-edx-president-anant-agarwal/>
- [10] 3.091x: Introduction to Solid State Chemistry (https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/3.091x/2012_Fall/about)
- [11] 6.00x: Introduction to Computer Science and Programming (https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.00x/2012_Fall/about)
- [12] Ellen Junn and Cathy Cheal of San José State University report on the universities efforts to incorporate MIT's Electronics and Circuits course 6.002x Little Hoover Commission Public Hearing Written Testimony (http://www.lhc.ca.gov/studies/activestudies/highereducation/San_Jose_State_testimony.pdf)
- [13] CS169.1x: Software as a Service (https://www.edx.org/courses/BerkeleyX/CS169.1x/2012_Fall/about)
- [14] 6.002x: Circuits and Electronics (https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/6.002x/2012_Fall/about)
- [15] - PH207x: Health in Numbers: Quantitative Methods in Clinical & Public Health Research (https://www.edx.org/courses/HarvardX/PH207x/2012_Fall/about)
- [16] Information about the course at edx.org (https://www.edx.org/courses/HarvardX/PH207x/2012_Fall/about) (Accessed on 23 Oct 2012)
- [17] CS188.1x: Artificial Intelligence (https://www.edx.org/courses/BerkeleyX/CS188.1x/2012_Fall/about)

- [18] CS50x: Introduction to Computer Science I (<https://www.edx.org/courses/HarvardX/CS50x/2012/about>)
- [19] 3.091x: Introduction to Solid State Chemistry (https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/3.091x/2013_Spring/about)
- [20] 7.00x: Introduction to Biology - The Secret of Life (https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/7.00x/2013_Spring/about)
- [21] 14.73x: The Challenges of Global Poverty (https://www.edx.org/courses/MITx/14.73x/2013_Spring/about)

External links

- Official website (<http://www.edx.org>)
- EdX (<https://twitter.com/edXOnline>) on Twitter
- MIT press release (<http://web.mit.edu/press/2012/mit-harvard-edx-announcement.html>)
- Harvard press release (<http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2012/05/mit-and-harvard-announce-edx/>)!
- official logo (http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/edX_Logo_Col_RGB_FINAL.jpg)
- "Barriers to Adoption of Online Learning Systems in U.S. Higher Education" (<http://www.sr.ithaka.org/research-publications/barriers-adoption-online-learning-systems-us-higher-education>) study by Lawrence S. Bacow, William G. Bowen, Kevin M. Guthrie, Kelly A. Lack, Matthew P. Long published by Ithaka S+R May 1, 2012 This study coins the term "Interactive Learning Online" or ILO.
- Taylor Walsh, author, William G. Bowen, foreword, *Unlocking the Gates: How and Why Leading Universities Are Opening Up Access to Their Courses*, Princeton University Press (December 28, 2010), hardcover, 320 pages, ISBN 0691148740 ISBN 978-0691148748
- "The X Factor" (<http://chronicle.com/blogs/brainstorm/the-x-factor/46395>) Brainstorm blog post by Kevin Carey *Chronicle of Higher Education* May 2, 2012

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