

Supporting campus in the cloud

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I will survey my experience with using online educational content for my on-campus courses, including my most recent experience using material from UC Berkeley's Artificial Intelligence MOOC on edX, and past experience using Stanford course materials on Machine Learning and Database hosted on Coursera.

The talk will also discuss educational communities that can emerge when on-campus courses, their students and instructors, participate in and create global offerings like MOOCs. For example, *wrapper* courses are on-campus courses that require students to participate in an *appropriate* MOOC as a subset of the wrapper's course requirements.^{1,2} The simultaneous offering and content coupling of an on-campus course and a MOOC better enables cohorts of learners and instructors at varying grain sizes to interact. At Vanderbilt, some of us are interested, for example, in how wrappers can be designed to engage on-campus students with regional, thematic, and global communities so as to improve (on-campus) student outcomes in computer science, and to improve diversity in the computing field.

In addition to on-campus courses and students operating in the cloud, instructors can and will as well. Collaboration between computer science faculty at Vanderbilt (Doug Schmidt and Jules White) and the University of Maryland (Adam Porter), for example, has led to a trans-institution MOOC sequence of related courses with soft prerequisite structures and a capstone. This curriculum-level construct is a nascent step towards curricula that span institutions, and is but one way that instructors and students can collaborate across traditional boundaries in their teaching, just as they have done in their research for many years. These collaborations undoubtedly have implications on student outcomes and diversity as well.

1. Wrapping a MOOC: Student Perceptions of an Experiment in Blended Learning (http://jolt.merlot.org/vol9no2/bruff_0613.htm)

2. Warming up to MOOCs (<http://chronicle.com/blogs/profhacker/warming-up-to-moocs/44022>)