THE MOOCS: CHARACTERISTICS, BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES

Nasiya

Research Scholar (Ph.D.)
Education, Bhagwant University,
Sikar Road Ajmeer-305004

Abstract—*The purpose of this research paper is to investigate the amplify of interest in MOOCs with a focus on the characteristics, benefits, and challenges of MOOCs. To achieve the purpose of the research, relevant literature review is conducted. The findings of this paper show that the main features of MOOCs include massive enrollment of students with the highest course having 160,000, over 8.1 million students have taken MOOCs and the numbers are growing. As illustrated in the paper, MOOCs encompass two distinct course formats, which are cMOOCs and xMOOCs. cMOOCs and xMOOCs are significantly different in their pedagogy style. cMOOCs are networked and distributed to operate on a single website. Participants are encouraged to take self-directed measures in terms of meeting in locations to better organize themselves. In contrast, xMOOCs are organized on a specifically designated platform. Students may collaborate through strategic social media partnerships such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. The social media partnerships have been found to offer competitive advantages in terms of low-cost and tremendous visibility.*

Keywords*: MOOCs, characteristics, benefits, and challenges.*