the Common Microcredential Framework (CMF)

Microbol kick-off
Date: 31-08-2020

George Ubachs (EADTU)

Founding partners

>3000 MOOCs   >400 higher education institutions   5 Languages

EMC develops activities to increase the awareness and use of digital education and MOOCs

EMC makes MOOCs a widely considered option for employers seeking to close knowledge and skills gaps in the economy and for workers interested in changing careers.
In order to do this, EMC and its partners developed a dialogue with social partners and civil society organisations on the changing needs of the European workforce.

- EMC-Labour Market project

  To empower universities, employment services and companies in (co-)developing, (co-)delivering and using MOOCs and Short Learning Programmes for CE, CPD/CVT in order to integrate MOOCs and digital education and training in current offerings EU-wide

Rationale

Ongoing practice in MOOCs and online short programmes is **rapidly growing Europe and world-wide**. There is a major variation in credentials awarded for them: micromasters, nanodegrees, mastertracks etc.

No consistency in qualifications leads to confusion.

Clarity on qualifications is of utmost importance for learners, universities and employers.

At the moment the current situation is hindering the breakthrough of MOOC programmes, online continuous education / CPD in general and career development while careers become longer and are changing

Demand for a more standardised credential

There is major variation within credentials and between them. Employers need a common standard to support lifelong learning

July 18, 2018

Analysis of 450 MOOC-Based Microcredentials Reveals Many Options But Little Consistency

Written by **Laurie Pickard** ⏱ 9 minute read 💬 4 Comments

Microcredential Type	Price Range	Range of Minimum # Months to Complete	Lowest Minimum Effort Per Week	Highest Maximum Effort Per Week
Coursera Specialization	$27 – $636	1-15	1 hour	40 hours
edX XSeries	$90 – $594	2-10	1 hour	10 hours
FutureLearn Program	$147 – $1,685	2-12	2 hours	6 hours
edX Professional Certificate	$68 – $2,340	1-15	1 hour	13 hours
Kadenze Program	$300 – $900	2-7	6 hours	12 hours
Udacity Nanodegree	$199 – $2,400	1-8	5 hours	15 hours
edX MicroMasters	$536 – $1,500	3-15	2 hours	20 hours
Coursera MasterTrack	$2,000 – $3,474	4-6	4 hours	15 hours
Coursera Professional	$406 – $5,980	4-8	8 hours	10 hours

EMC.

Our Ambitions – Micro-Credentials

EMC partners aim to:

- Lay the foundations for a **new qualification to address the needs of employers and learners** looking for smaller units of study that develop relevant skills

- Enable courses to be **recognised** towards formal qualifications

- Enable courses to be **stackable** across different higher education systems

Model: Common Microcredential Framework (CMF)

- Have a total **workload 100 - 150 hours** (4-6 ECTS)

- Be levelled at **Level 6 (bachelor) Level 7 (Master) and level 8 (Doctoral) with option for level 5 (in combination with ECTS)** in the European Qualification Framework or the equivalent levels in the University's National Qualification Framework

- Provide assessment enabling the **award of academic credit**, either following successful completion of the Course or via Recognition of Prior Learning upon enrolment as a student on the University's course

- Operate a **reliable method of ID verification** at the point of assessment

- Provide a **transcript setting out the learning outcomes** for a Course, hours of

And…study required, EQF level and number of credit points earned

  - Courses should be designed so that the number of hours per week is **manageable**

  - Courses aimed at employees or workplace skills should **combine theory and practice** to ensure their learning directly relevant in the workplace

Microcredentials 9 MICROCREDENTIALS

Our online microcredentials are designed to upskill you for work in rapidly-growing industries, without the time and cost commitment of a full degree. You can earn academic credit to use towards a degree or they can be used as an independent certification. Each microcredential includes a formal online assessment and meets the standards set by the Common Microcredential Framework (CMF).

The Open University endorsed by Cisco Networking Academy

Cyber Security Operations (Cisco CCNA)

Upskill in cyber security operations and enhance your working knowledge of cyber security with Cisco and The Open University.

📖 1 course ⏳ 12 weeks ◈ Postgraduate

Find out more

Monash University

Data Science: Data-Driven Decision Making

Discover storytelling with data and make better business decisions using data wrangling, modelling, and storytelling techniques.

📖 3 courses ⏳ 12 weeks ◈ Postgraduate

Find out more

The Open University endorsed by Royal Photographic Society

Digital Photography: Creating a Professional Portfolio

Navigate the fast-moving technological developments in digital photography and build a professional portfolio you're proud of.

📖 1 course ⏳ 10 weeks ◈ Undergraduate

Find out more

Dublin City University co-created by DCU Business School

FinTech - Financial Innovation

Investigate the changes brought about by FinTech innovation and harness evolving opportunities in the future of FinTech.

📖 4 courses ⏳ 12 weeks ◈ Postgraduate

Find out more

The Open University

Global Development in Practice: Designing an Intervention

Use development management tools and frameworks to plan, implement and evaluate development interventions in practice.

📖 1 course ⏳ 12 weeks ◈ Postgraduate

Find out more

Queensland University of Technology

Project Management: Managing Front-End Planning

Build the project planning and management skills to start a career in project management within your chosen professional field.

📖 2 courses ⏳ 10 weeks ◈ Postgraduate

Find out more

Online Microcredential in **Business & Management**

Created by

DCU Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City University

FinTech - Financial Innovation

Investigate the changes brought about by FinTech innovation and harness evolving opportunities in the future of FinTech.

Learn more

Speak to an advisor   Join now $1,659

Dates	Duration	Cost	Level
Starts on 24 Jan 2020	**12 weeks**	**$1,659**	**Postgraduate**
See more start dates			See requirements

Overview   Requirements   Syllabus   What you will receive   Educators   Start dates

Explore up-to-date technological innovation in the financial services industry

Next Steps

On FUN, Miriadax and EduOpen the microcredentials will be called Gradeo

On the FUN plaform, we will be launching several Gradeos :

- *Computer networks* with Institut Mines Telecom
- *Digital manufacturing* with Institut Mines Telecom
- *Big data and AI* with University of Côte d'Azur in partnership with Oracle
- *Web and Mobile Programming* with University of Côte d'Azur in partnership with Oracle
- *Process Management* with University Jean Moulin of Lyon

Developing our learning pathways

Short Courses

Hundreds
of Short Courses

Millions
of Learners

Microcredentials

10 - 15 UK
credits / 4-6
ECTS credits

Aimed at
Lifelong Learners

Degrees

Degrees &
Qualifications

Universities
and Networks

EMC

Spectrum of (stackable) provisions in (online) continuing education (In green = short learning programmes**)**

From learning unit to degree programme	Award	Size (ECTS)
Learning unit/micro-learning	Eventually a badge/proof of attendance (part of a course or stackable to a course)	Less than 1 ECTS
Course MOOC with credits	ECTS (stackable to a programme)	1 or more ECTS
Common Microcredential Framework CMF-microcredential programme MOOC pathways	Gradeo/ OUUK microcredential (stackable to a SLP or a degree)	5 (4-6 ECTS)
Certified programme Online (MOOC-based) programme	Undergraduate/postgraduate certificate Specialisation Diploma … (stackable to a degree)	30 (20-40 ECTS)
Degree programme (bachelor/master/doctorate)	Bachelor/master/doctorate credential	180 ECTS 60-90-120 ECTS 240 ECTS

Thank You

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