

*Education on the Horizon: Teaching
and Learning with Technology*

Week 4: Cloud-based Learning

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"Classroom in the air",
old concept in the new
era

Terminologies

- Webinar: web-based seminar in video-conferencing software, not free and open to all
- MOOC: Massive Open Online Course, free and open
 - xMOOC: eXtended Massive Open Online Course, e.g., edX, Coursera, and Udacity
 - cMOOC: Connectivist Massive Open Online Course

What do they have in common?

- Instruction are cloud-based: information stored and transmitted through Internet
- Interactions are also cloud-based

Demos: webinar

- Webinars from University of Notre Dame
- Webinars from Uni Potsdam
 - free, but only for currently enrolled students, e.g., EDUC Alliance
- Webinars by Harvard Business School
 - for everyone, but not free

Demos: Other popular cloud-based learning platform

- Master Class: for-profit, learn from top professionals, short-format
- Skillshare: for-profit, learn from individuals, short-format
- Lynda.com / LinkedInLearn: for-profit, professional development
- Again, they are not free and open to all

Demos: xMOOC

Demos: cMOOC

- Teach-Outs: non-profit, hybrid workshop that centers around timely topics

MOOC as teaching material

- Khan Academy: non-profit, basic STEM courses for lower grades
- Watch Khan academy's creator talking about why he created this platform:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCxGAvSH-cw>

The larger picture here

- Open Educational Resources (OER)

learning, teaching and research materials in any format and medium that reside in the public domain or are under copyright that have been released under an open license, that permit no-cost access, re-use, re-purpose, adaptation and redistribution by others.

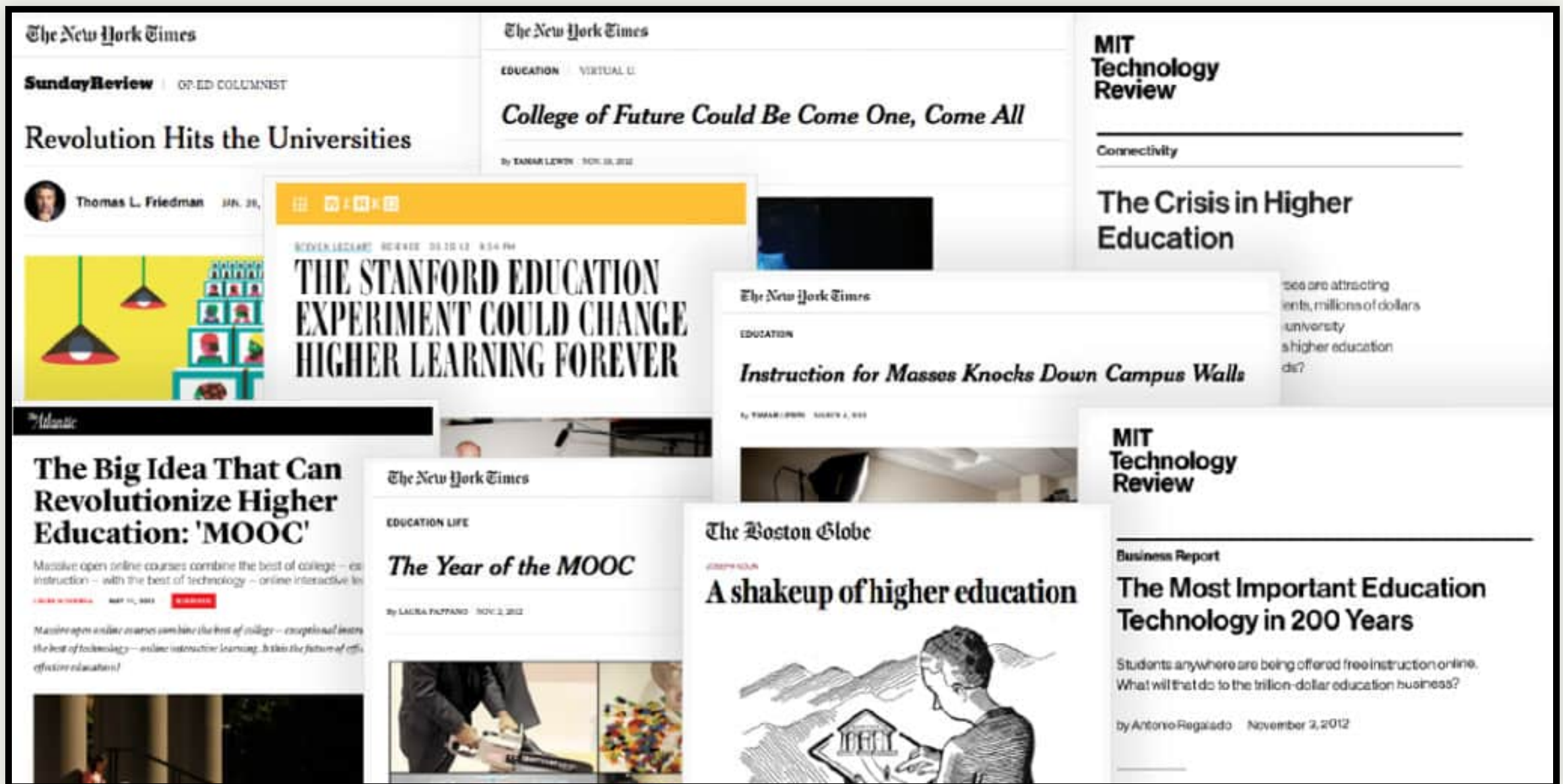
Who are the learners

- College students
- Professionals who want to level up to the next stage in their careers
- Enthusiasts for different topics
- Any students that have space / time constraints:
School of the Air

Advantage

- freedom from space and time limitations
- self-pacing
- free and open for all, reach learners who are previously not accessible
- Student's perspective

Hypes



Criticisms

- High drop-out rate
- "Matthew effect": the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.
 - lacks support in learning strategy
 - optional reading: The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing:
The Matthew Effect in Online Education

Bonus: Cloud-based Teacher Education

- Teach-Now: getting a teaching certificate through online training
- What do you think of this certification program?
- What were your general impressions about online learning in the teacher education program?



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