

WHAT MAKES A COURSE QUALIFY FOR CREDIT?

Christine A. Botosan

President, American Accounting Association



Environmental Change in Higher Education

Technology
Societal Expectations
Globalization
Business Model

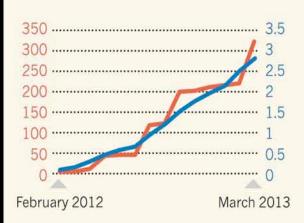


MOOCs rising

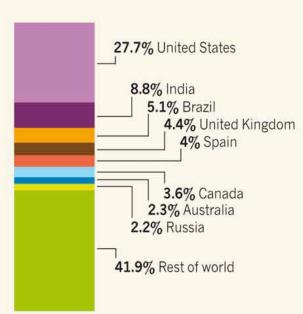
Over little more than a year, Coursera in Mountain View, California — the largest of three companies developing and hosting massive open online courses (MOOCs) — has introduced 328 different courses from 62 universities in 17 countries (left). The platform's 2.9 million registered users come from more than 220 countries (centre). And courses span subjects as diverse as pre-calculus, equine nutrition and introductory jazz improvisation (right).

Supply and demand

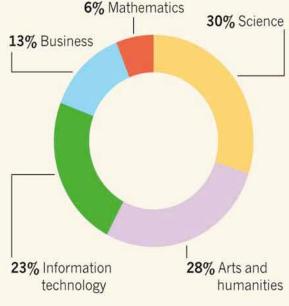
- Number of courses available on the platform
- Number of user accounts on the platform (millions)



Student origins



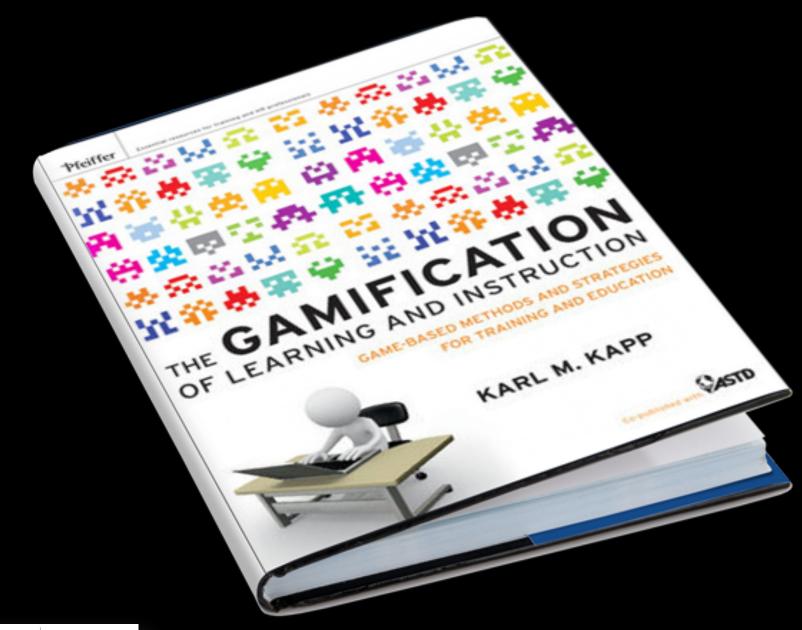
Courses offered





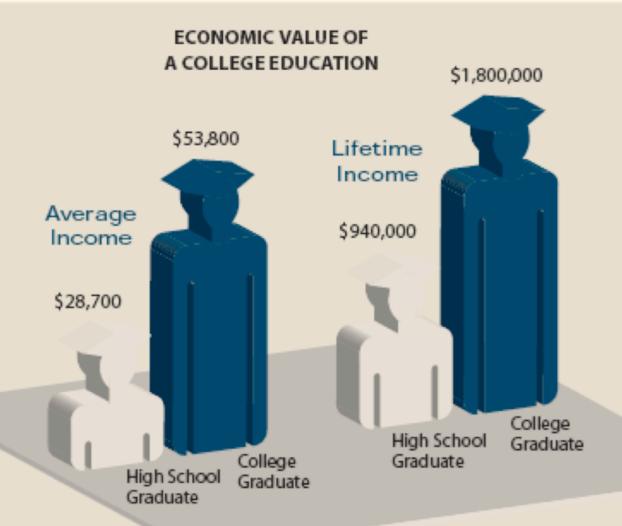
Assessment in an On-line Environment







Thought Leaders in Accounting

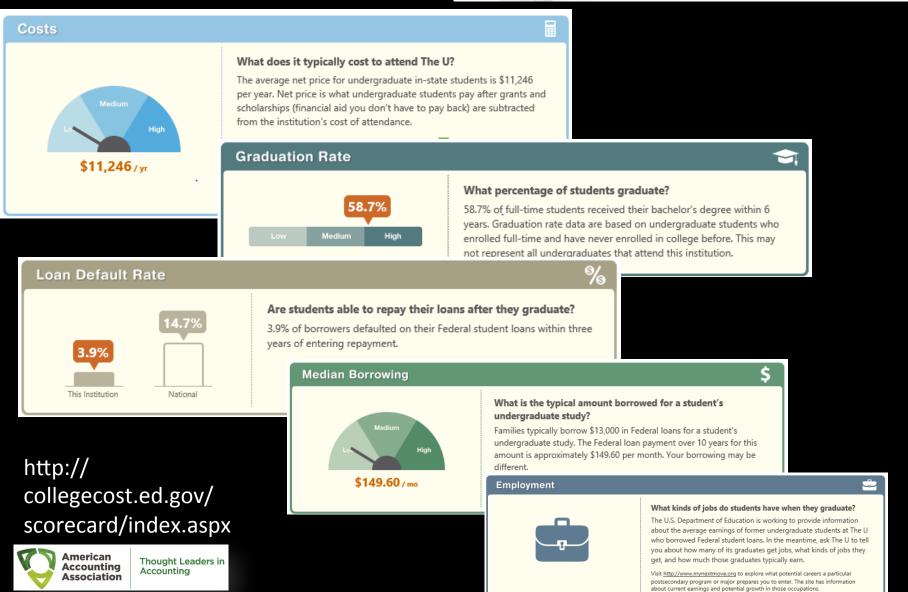






University of Utah (The U)

Salt Lake City, UT



Canada:

Increasing Government investment in marketing Canadian higher education. Possible target to double student numbers within a decade

USA:

Planned enhancement to post-study work options for STEM graduates

Germany:

"Strategy 2020" includes plans to strengthen the profile of German higher education internationally, and to increase international student numbers to at least 350,000

a

EU (excl. UK):
Considering proposals
to make the EU more
attractive by
establishing common
entitlements relating to
visa processing times,
and on term-time and
post-study
employment

France:

Post-study work opportunities are expanding after an unpopular measure that imposed stiff visa restrictions was abandoned

Korea:

Target to double student numbers to 200,000 by 2020

China:

Target to almost double the number of international students to 500,000 by 2020

Taiwan:

Target to more than double numbers to 130,000 by 2020

Japan:

Malaysia: New agency set up

to promote

Malaysian higher

education to help

meet target of

hosting 200,000

international

students by 2020

Target to more than double student numbers to 300,000 by 2020

Australia:

New post-study work options introduced in 2013, enabling graduates to remain working in the country for between 2 and 4 years

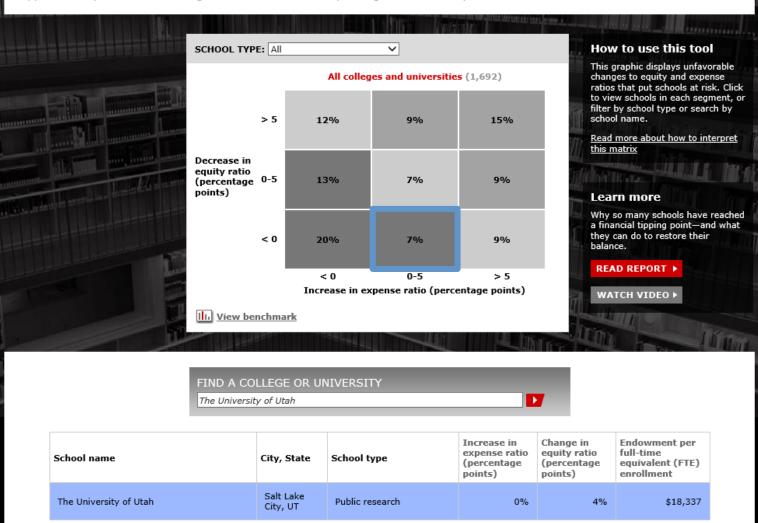
New Zealand:

Government strategy to double the value of education exports over 15 years



Financial Fade

Approximately one-third of colleges and universities are spending more than they can afford. Find out which schools are at risk.







Announcement: Moody's: Outlook for US higher education sector remains negative for 2014

Global Credit Research - 25 Nov 2013

New York, November 25, 2013 -- The outlook for the US higher education sector remains negative, Moody's Investors Service says in a new report, "2014 Outlook -- US Higher Education and Not-for-Profits." Business conditions in the sector will remain stressed over the next 12-18 months. Revenue growth is expected to remain much lower than historical standards and to be eclipsed by expenses, due to pent-up institutional needs.

"Heightened competition for government funds, donors, and students combined with pressure to increase compensation and invest in programs and facilities will result in continued deterioration of financial performance," says Moody's Vice President -- Senior Analyst, Eva Bogaty. "Although higher education institutions have shown willingness and ability to adapt to weak economic conditions, the uncertain funding and regulatory environments will overshadow the sector's strengths in the near term."

Macroeconomic pressures, including a relatively high unemployment rate, lagging labor force participation rate and income stagnation, are undercutting the ability of universities to grow net tuition revenue, Bogaty says. "Affordability remains a key issue as the weak economic environment continues to affect families' ability to pay for higher education and reduces institutions' discretionary spending capacity."

Governmental funding pressures will also challenge the industry in 2014, Moody's says. Federal budget pressures could affect Pell Grants and other federal financial aid. State funding will either be reduced, stagnant, or only slightly increased. Federal research funding will contract further in 2014 following a 5% cut through sequestration. Even if a federal budget agreement is reached, Moody's expects funding to remain flat at best.

"Over the next several years, navigating the new higher education landscape will force universities and colleges to become more nimble in their strategic positioning," Bogaty says. "Over the long term this evolution could be credit positive if it provides greater access and flexibility to students and reduces costs through greater collaboration across institutions."

Moody's research subscribers can access this report at https://www.moodys.com/research/2 Higher-Education-Not-for-Profits-and-Independent--PBM_PBM160659.

Thought Leaders in Accounting

American Accounting What makes a course qualify for academic credit?

An Illustrative Case

WILL MY CREDITS TRANSFER?



General Policies at the



- Extent of discretion at the DESB level varies.
 - Freshman/sophomore undergraduate classes limited by articulation agreements (e.g. State imposed agreements with 2-year colleges).
 - Junior/senior undergraduate classes and graduate classes
 DESB has discretion.
- Limitations on the amount of transfer credit.
 - 5 of 7 core undergraduate accounting must be taken at the DESB.
 - University Utah also requires a minimum of 30 undergraduate credits to be taken at the U of U.
 - MACC program allows only 6 graduate credit hours to be transferred.



The Process at the



- Who?
 - Assessment is conducted by a faculty member in the department.
- Why?
 - Assess content coverage.
 - Assess competency.
- What?
 - Content: Examine the syllabus, text book, other available course materials and institutional accreditation.
 - Competency: Grade and/or examination.



Federal Definition of Credit Hour

In accordance with federal regulations effective July 1, 2011, both institutions and accrediting agencies are required to come into compliance with regulations regarding the definition and assignment of credit hours under Section 600.2 and 600.24.

Federal regulations mandate that all candidate and accredited institutions comply with the definition of the credit hour as set forth in Section 600.2, which defines the credit hour as:

Except as provided in 34 CFR 668.8(k) and (l)*, a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

- (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of outof-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
- (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

Alternative Approaches for MOOCs

- University MOOC provider partnerships to offer forcredit MOOCs to their students (e.g. San José State and Udacity).
- MOOC + university assessment tests to receive credit (e.g. University of Wisconsin).
- California proposed creating a list of approved MOOCs that public colleges might be required to accept for credit.
- American Council on Education.
 - Research effort underway to examine the academic potential of MOOCS.
 - Five Coursera courses recommended for college credit.



CHALLENGES

- Faculty member.
 - Limited availability of course materials.
 - Course materials in a foreign language.
 - Grades with inadequate information content.
 - Limited time and training.
- Institutional and external constituents.
 - Reliance on individual expert judgment.
 - Multiple players states, universities, colleges, and individual faculty.
 - Process varies by institution.

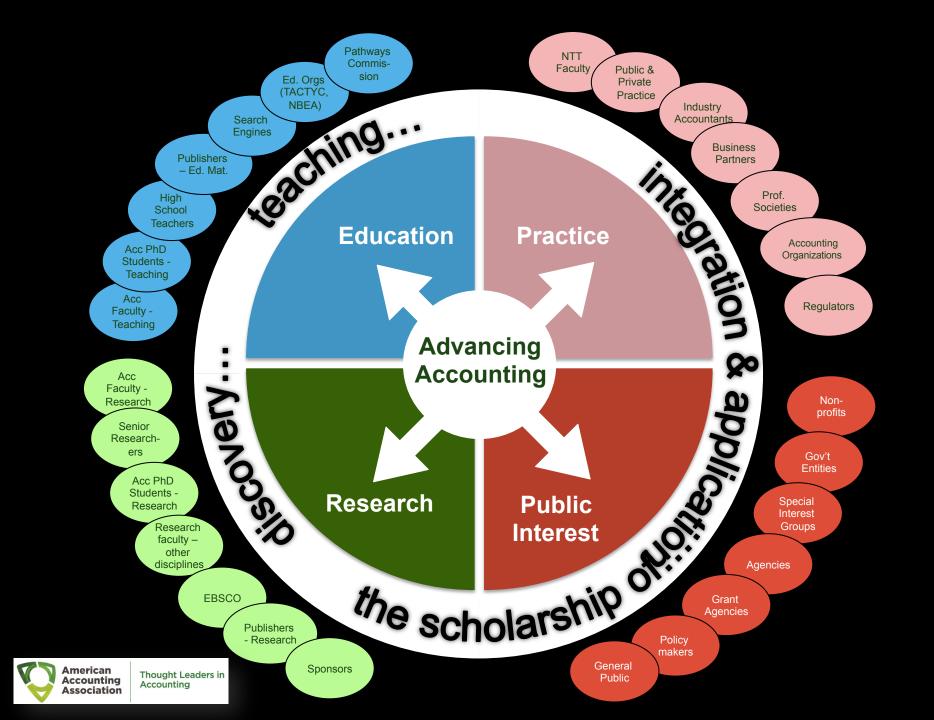




Challenge and change balanced by opportunity



The American Accounting Association's **Sharpening Our Vision** Project Thought Leaders in Accounting





Possibility:

Conferences to prime the pump for new research questions and methods that cut across multiple AAA sections and other disciplines....For example, "Big Data"





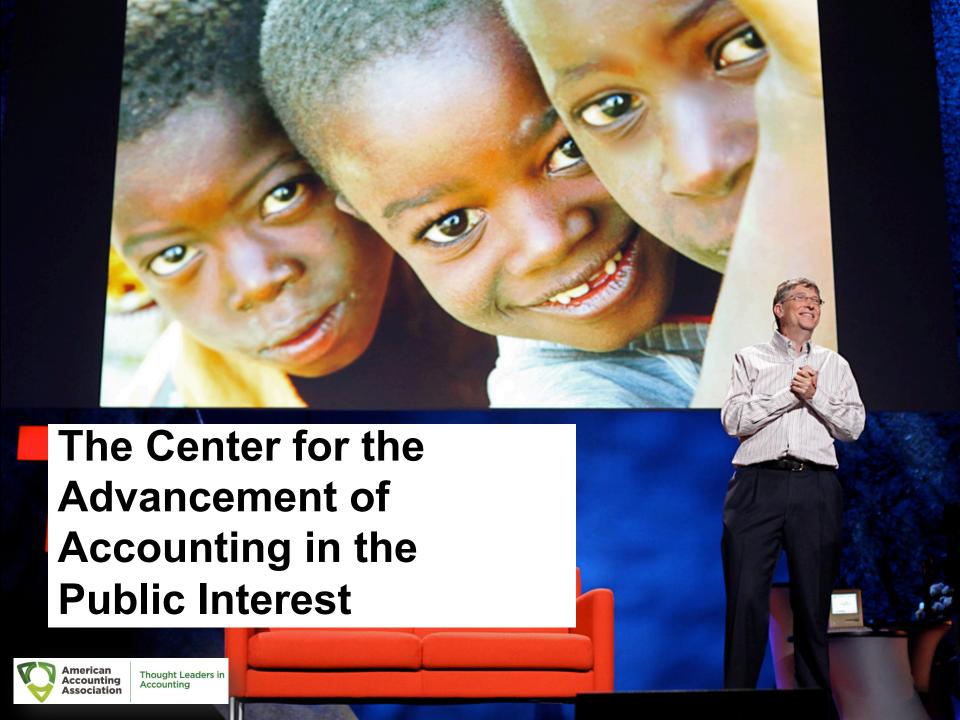
Possibility:

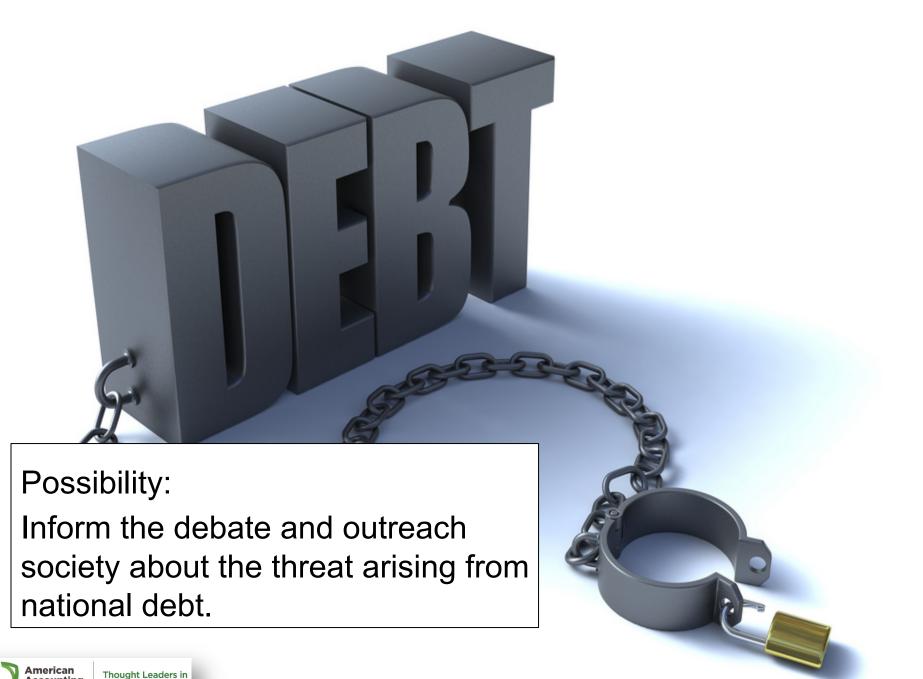
The *Nature* magazine for business.





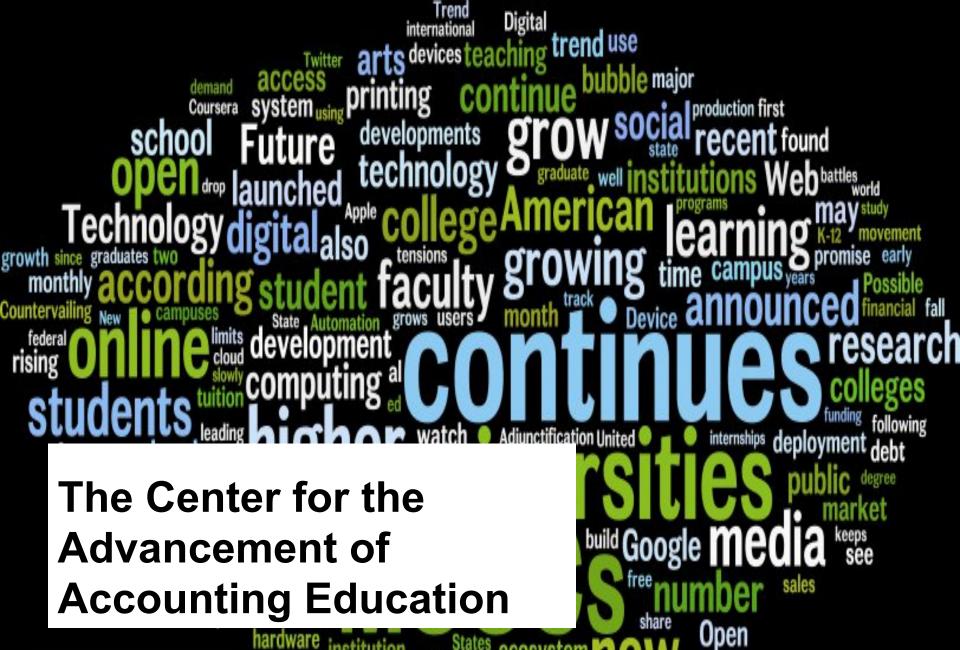






Accounting

Accounting





Thought Leaders in Accounting

Possibility:
Assessment of accounting MOOCs





