Distance Learning

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Outline

Distance education: needs, provision

Massive open online courses

Distance Training

Training a single remote learner
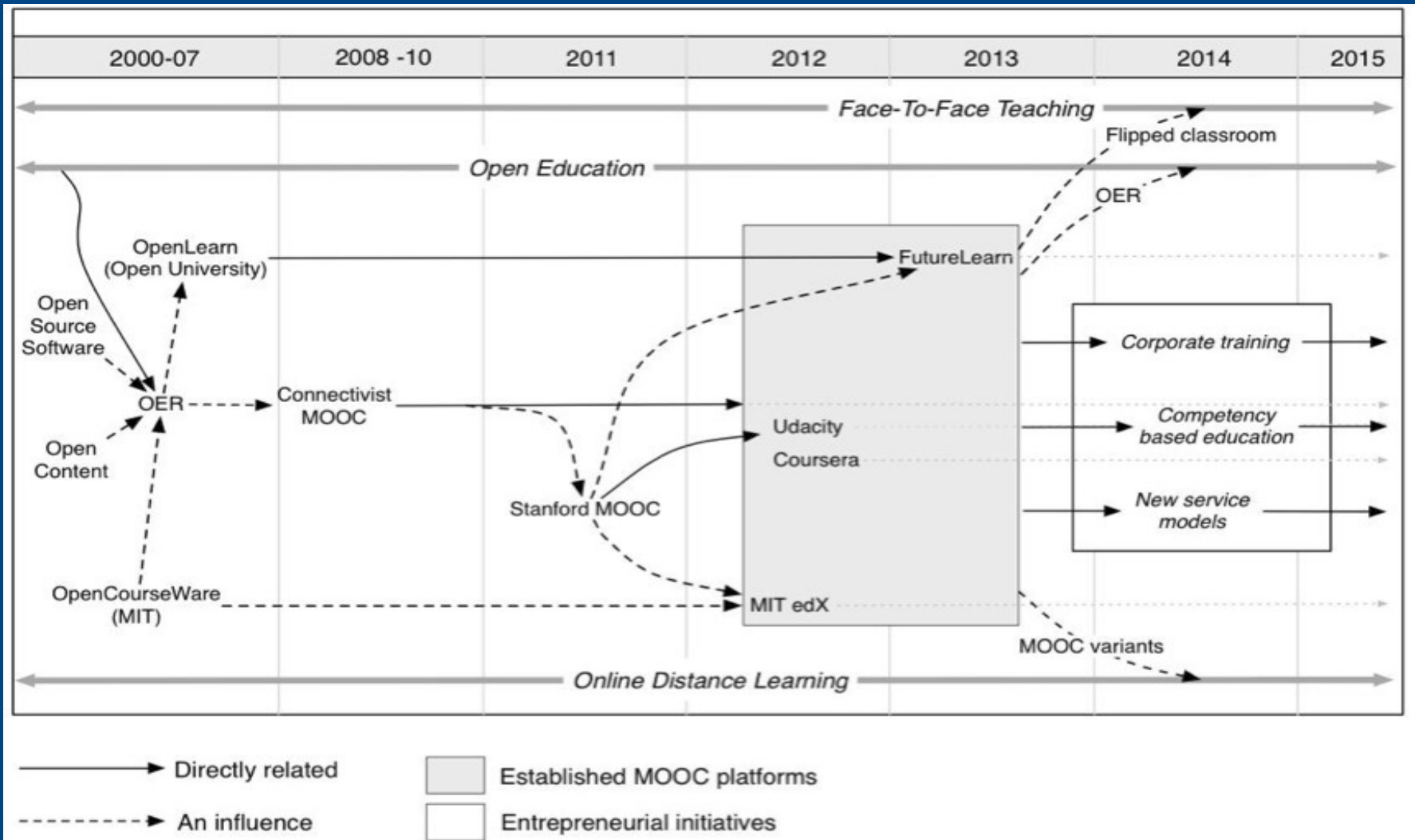
Remote training audience

Distance Education

Distance learning is an obvious response to the needs of modern education and to the anticipated reductions in expenditure.

In formal education we are witnessing the rise and stabilisation of learning provision via Massive open online courses (MOOCs).

- Unlimited participation + Open access

MOOCs

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massive_open_online_course

MOOCs

Attributes of major MOOC providers

Initiative	For profit	Free to access	Certification fee	Institutional credits
edX	No	Yes	Yes	No
Coursera	Yes	Partial	Yes	Partial
Udacity	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partial
Udemy	Yes	Partial	Yes	Partial
P2PU	No	Yes	No	No

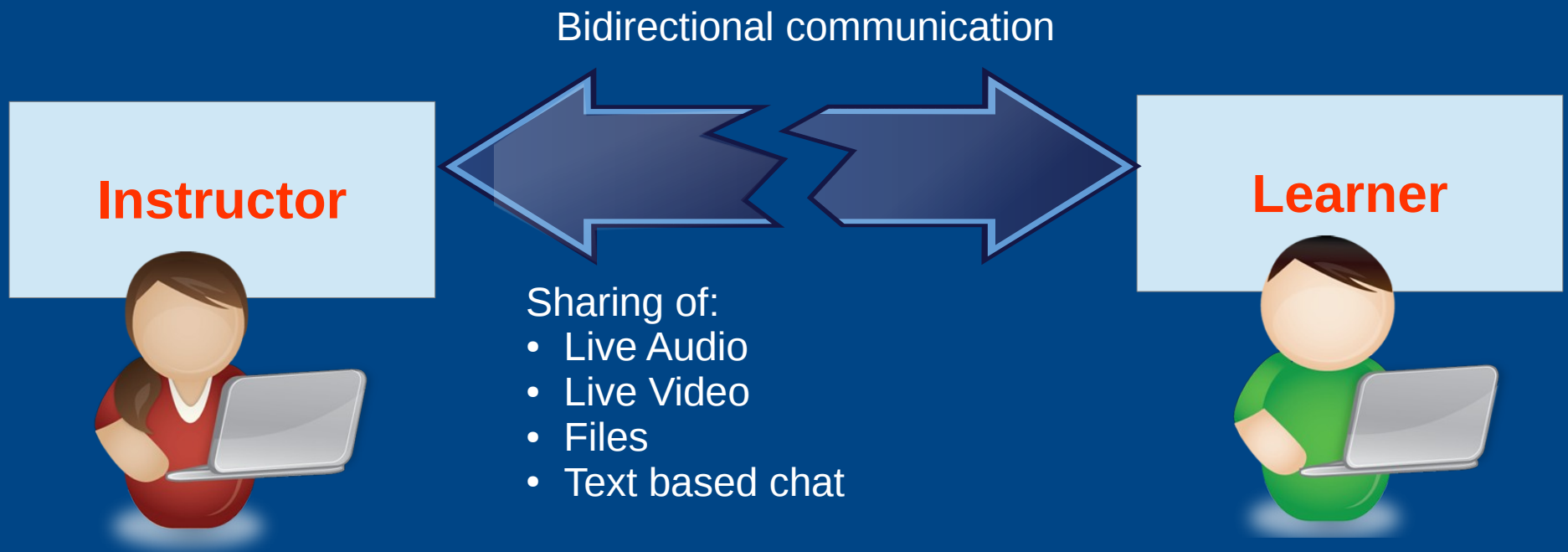https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massive_open_online_course

Distance Training

Training is much more about skills and the ability to use them autonomously.

As such, providing distance training requires that a **specific learning experience** is created remotely. Interaction between instructors, participants, software, machinery must be in place in a way where distance does not matter.

Training a single remote learner

In its simplest form, the video tutorial breaks the distance by using tools like Skype, TeamViewer, Adobe Connect, etc.

Bidirectional communication

Instructor

Learner

Sharing of:
- Live Audio
- Live Video
- Files
- Text based chat

Remote training audience

Linked training rooms may allow a live training experience to be shared with two audiences

Training room #1, London

Bidirectional communication
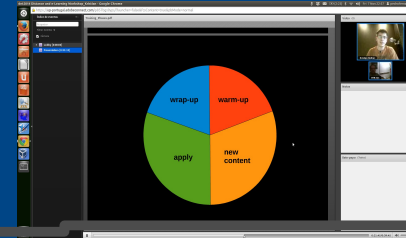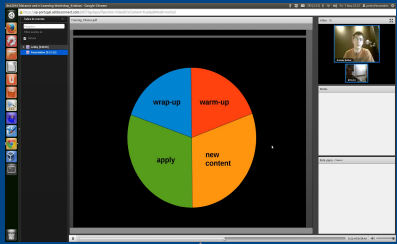
Training room #2, Cape Town

Sharing of:
- Audio
- Video
- Files
- Text based chat

Traininrg Room in London

Training Room in Cape Town

Sound
Slides
White board
File sharing
Q&A + chat
Voting

Sound
Slides
White board
File sharing
Q&A + chat
Voting

Instructor

TA

Conferencing software

Organiser #1

Organiser #2

Bidirectional Video Call
(Skype?)

Remote training audience

Specific concerns

Flawless video conference

Need to maintain the training quality

Fair asessment

To probe further

Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC)
http://www.deac.org/

A Comparative Study of Classroom and Online Distance Modes of Official Vocational Education and Training

http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0096052

End