

# Chapter 3

## Triggering Competitiveness From a Global Perspective: MOOCs and Micro-Credentials

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### ABSTRACT

*MOOCs and micro-credentials make high-quality education accessible to people from all backgrounds, leveling the playing field and promoting equitable access to skills and knowledge. These concepts are closely tied to global competitiveness by enabling individuals and economies to rapidly adapt to evolving skill demands, access cutting-edge knowledge, and foster innovation. This chapter aims to incorporate both concepts considering the sections and intersections from a global perspective to shape the future of education and bridge the skills gap. When the term makes it more important than ever to be competitive in a global sense, the chapter emphasizes to be aware of the competencies that the institutions have. Designing the skill-oriented online course contents would be a motivation source within the concept of internationalization. The recommendations for the stakeholders given in the frameworks that triggered the quality assurance, internationalization, and*

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*global competitiveness.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) and micro-credentials have the potential to address the skills and upskilling gaps in lifelong learning by making education accessible, flexible, and relevant. Considering the concept and application era of MOOCs and micro-credentials, it is noticeably accessible and typically low-cost or free, and allows individuals across different socioeconomic backgrounds to access high-quality education from reputable institutions. Addition to this, MOOCs offer the flexibility to learn at one's own pace, making them ideal for working professionals who need to balance work, family, and education. The accessibility of MOOCs empowers more people to upskill without the financial burden of traditional education and enables learners to focus on specific skills they need for career advancement, rather than committing to lengthy degree programs. By making education more accessible, industry-aligned, and modular, MOOCs and micro-credentials provide individuals with a practical pathway for continuous skills development, helping bridge the gap in lifelong learning and enhancing workforce readiness.

Micro-credentials focus on specific competencies, enabling learners to gain targeted, job-relevant skills that meet immediate demands in the job market. These "bite-sized" certifications make it easier for individuals to demonstrate proficiency in a niche area without requiring full degrees. Micro-credentials can often be "stacked" into larger qualifications or recognized toward professional development goals. This structure enables learners to build skills incrementally, offering pathways to more formal certifications or degrees if desired.

The educational and skill development ecosystem in the digital era has been completely revolutionized as a result of the introduction of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and Micro-Credentials. Many MOOCs and micro-credential programs partner with industry leaders to design courses that address real-world skills gaps. This collaboration helps ensure that learners acquire skills aligned with current job market needs, improving employability. In order to close the skills gap and encourage individuals all around the world to pursue their education throughout their lives, these new technologies have proved vital. Within the context of fulfilling the ever-evolving expectations of learners and industry, this chapter investigates the significance of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and Micro-Credentials as a means of facilitating continuous growth and development. The modular structure of MOOCs and micro-credentials supports lifelong learning by encouraging a continuous approach to education. As industry demands evolve, professionals can return to these platforms to update their skills and stay competitive. The concept

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