

FLAN MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday 17th March - 1400hrs | Hosted online by The Open University

#OUFlan

Time	Item	Speaker	Title
1400	Welcome	Fereshte Goshtasbpour, The Open University	
1410	Presentation	Ahmed Al-Imarah, University of Kufa	The possibility of using MOOCs to enhance cultural heritage and social cohesion
1435	Presentation	Matthew Moran, The Open University	Designing for creativity and reflection
1500	Presentation	Nada Alsayegh, University of Edinburgh	Teacher Identity and MOOC Spaces in Arabic MOOC Platforms
1525	Break		
1535	Presentation	Shahrzad Ardavani, University of Aberdeen	Beyond the binary of Native English-Speaking Teachers and Non-native English-Speaking Teachers
1600	FutureLearn	Matt Jenner, FutureLearn	Key trends for the Future of Learning
1625	FLAN Futures	Leah Marks, University of Glasgow Manuel Leon Urrutia Rebecca Ferguson, The Open University	Reviewing the terms of reference of FLAN, looking ahead at publication plans and asking for ideas and input
1650	Thank you	Fereshte Goshtasbpour, The Open University	

ABSTRACTS

The possibility of using MOOCs to enhance cultural heritage and social cohesion

Ahmed Al-Imarah, University of Kufa

The Iraqi Higher Education Institutions aim to use MOOCs designed for the learning of society. Launching a project supporting the Iraqi Heritage helped to establish MOOCs that target learners from different backgrounds in society. Despite a long historical tradition of pluralism and cohesion, the effects of war and the recent ISIS insurgency have led to increasing deterioration and fragmentation and the social fabric.

The project, therefore, seeks to use MOOCs to deepen appreciation for cultural heritage and develop social-cohesion in a post-conflict environment. Several Iraqi academics engage in the training programme and capacity building around the creation of OER, specifically MOOCs. These academics will develop both an understanding of cultural heritage and improve social cohesion through MOOCs.

Designing for creativity and reflection

Matthew Moran, The Open University

In this presentation we describe some innovations we at The Open University are introducing to FutureLearn course development and design, which are intended to support educators working at scale. We have observed that educators, learning designers and course producers will often prioritise efficiency and delivery when working at scale, and 'getting the job done', at the expense of creativity and reflection. This presentation will describe how we are introducing exogenous practices and techniques from other domains – including from TV and film production, and software engineering – to support educators' creative and reflective practice.

Teacher Identity and MOOC Spaces in Arabic MOOC Platforms

Nada Alsayegh, University of Edinburgh

In this participation, I will present part of my PhD research on MOOC teacher identity in a cultural context. The research adopts a sociomaterial approach in examining MOOC teacher experience in Arabic MOOCs. Analysing interviews and visual data from social spatial perspective shows that various teacher identities are expressed in MOOC teaching. In this presentation, I will show examples of Arabic MOOC spaces and teacher identity that formed spatially.

Beyond the binary of Native English-Speaking Teachers and Non-native English-Speaking Teachers

Shahrazad Ardavani, University of Aberdeen

Within the discipline of TESOL, there is an enduring focus on the differences of Native English-Speaking Teachers (NESTs), and Non-Native English-Speaking Teachers (NNESTs), their strength and weaknesses, dating back to the pioneering work of Medgyes, who viewed these two groups as '*two different species*'. What is to be the role of this dichotomy within an online environment of a MOOC-based CPD? This research attempts to answer this question by applying Holiday's theoretical framework of small and large cultures in an investigation of NESTs and NNESTs perspectives whilst reflecting on their interaction, involved in cooperative learning.

Key Trends for the Future of Learning

Matt Jenner, FutureLearn

Matt Jenner from FutureLearn will present the top 10 key trends from the recent [Future of Learning report](#) published in Feb 2021. The data was captured by YouGov surveys to over 4000 adults in Australia, US and UK. The top findings will also come alongside some of the headline statistics discovered, differences between the three geographical regions and give us a chance as a group to discuss the impact of these findings.