

A STUDY OF MOOC's PLATFORMS SWAYAM AND COURSERA: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

Komal G. Mendhe

Research scholar

Department of Library and Information
Science

R. T. M. N. U., Nagpur

Dr. Shalini R. Lihitkar

Professor

Department of Library and Information
Science

R. T. M. N. U., Nagpur

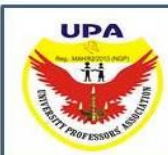
Abstract :

This comparative study meticulously examines and contrasts the features, profiles, teaching pedagogy, and language diversity of two prominent Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platforms, SWAYAM and Coursera. With a focus on these critical dimensions, the research aims to unravel the unique characteristics that define the user experience and educational methodologies on each platform. The analysis begins by scrutinizing the features inherent to SWAYAM and Coursera, outlining the tools, resources, and interactive elements that contribute to the distinctiveness of each platform. The profiles of both platforms are delineated, shedding light on institutional affiliations and overarching missions that shape their educational offerings. Teaching pedagogy is a central focus, exploring the instructional methods employed by SWAYAM and Coursera. The research delves into course design, assessment strategies, and the level of interactivity to offer insights into the nuanced approaches that characterize the learning experience on each platform. Language diversity, a pivotal aspect of global online education, is thoroughly examined. The study assesses the languages in which courses are offered on SWAYAM and Coursera, providing a comprehensive understanding of linguistic inclusivity and its implications for learners worldwide. The findings of this research are crucial for educators, policymakers, and learners seeking a nuanced understanding of MOOC platforms. By offering insights into features, profiles, teaching pedagogy, and language dynamics, this study contributes to the broader discourse on online education, facilitating informed decisions and fostering a deeper appreciation for the diversity of approaches in digital learning environments.

KEYWORDS:-E-learning , E -platform, SWAYAM, COURSERA, MOOCs

INTRODUCTION

Massive Open Online Courses, commonly known as MOOCs, have emerged as a ground breaking phenomenon in the realm of education, reshaping the traditional learning paradigm. These digital learning platforms offer open access to an extensive array of courses, fostering a global community of learners. MOOCs are characterized by their scalability, accommodating tens of thousands of participants, and breaking down traditional barriers to education. The transformative power of MOOCs lies in their ability to democratize learning, providing equal opportunities to individuals worldwide. MOOCs cover a wide spectrum of subjects, ranging from the arts and humanities to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This diversity allows learners to explore their passions, acquire new skills, and stay current with evolving industry trends. Prominent platforms like Coursera, edX, and Udacity collaborate with renowned universities and institutions to deliver courses facilitated by experts in their respective fields. Flexibility is a hallmark of MOOCs, offering self-paced learning experiences that cater to the diverse schedules and commitments of participants. The integration of interactive elements, such as discussion forums, quizzes, and peer assessments, enhances engagement and fosters a sense of virtual community. While



MOOCs have garnered acclaim for their accessibility, concerns persist regarding completion rates and the formal recognition of acquired skills. Nonetheless, MOOCs continue to play a pivotal role in shaping a more inclusive, flexible, and globally connected educational landscape, making high-quality learning experiences accessible to a broad and diverse audience.

SWAYAM: India

SWAYAM, an acronym for "Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds," is a pioneering initiative launched by the Government of India to revolutionize education through online learning. Introduced with the vision of providing accessible, flexible, and high-quality education to learners across the country, SWAYAM operates as a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform. The platform boasts a diverse array of courses spanning a wide range of academic levels and disciplines, from school-level subjects to advanced postgraduate studies. Embracing the principles of open access, SWAYAM allows learners to access course materials at no cost, making education inclusive and breaking down geographical barriers. SWAYAM employs interactive learning methodologies, incorporating video lectures, quizzes, assignments, and discussion forums to create an engaging and dynamic educational experience. The platform's commitment to technological innovation aligns with its goal of fostering active learning for young minds. Upon successful completion of courses, participants receive certificates, providing formal recognition of their achievements. Supported by the Government of India and collaborating with various educational institutions, SWAYAM stands as a powerful tool for democratizing education, empowering individuals to enhance their skills and knowledge in a flexible and accessible manner.

COURSERA: USA

Coursera, established in 2012, is a globally acclaimed online learning platform at the forefront of democratizing education. Headquartered in the United States, it partners with prestigious universities, organizations, and industry leaders to deliver a diverse range of online courses, specializations, and degree programs. Coursera's mission revolves around making high-quality education accessible to learner's worldwide, transcending geographical boundaries. The platform offers a plethora of courses spanning various disciplines, including technology, business, humanities, and sciences. Learners benefit from a flexible learning model, allowing them to study at their own pace and on their own schedule. Coursera enhances the educational experience through interactive elements like video lectures, quizzes, peer-reviewed assignments, and discussion forums, creating an engaging and immersive learning environment. Coursera's impact extends to professional development, as certificates and degrees earned on the platform are widely recognized by employers and institutions. Specializations, curated sequences of courses, and fully accredited online degrees further demonstrate Coursera's commitment to providing comprehensive and industry-relevant learning opportunities. This platform stands as a global catalyst for lifelong learning, empowering individuals to acquire new skills, advance their careers, and stay competitive in the rapidly evolving landscape of education and employment.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

To study various courses available on SWAYAM & COURSERA. To know the teaching pedagogy of SWAYAM and COURSERA and National coordinators of SWAYAM and COURSERA. To observe the registration process for the various courses provided by SWAYAM and COURSERA as well as to find out various languages used for different courses.

Research Methodology



Descriptive and Investigation method of research have been used for the study. The two courses provided on MOOC platform covered under study. The study was based on data collected through the website of SWAYAM and COUSERA. Collected data have been analyzed with the predetermined parameters with the help of statistical techniques. Interpretation and findings have been draw based on data analysis.

MOOCs Platforms/Providers at National and International Level

Sr. No.	MOOC providers	Sr. No.	MOOC providers
1	Coursera	23	MexicoX
2	Edx	24	France universite numerique
3	Udacity	25	Eduopen
4	Canvas network	26	Federica.eu
5	Stanford languita	27	Thia mooc
6	Future learn	28	K-mooc
7	European multiple MOOC Aggregator (EMMA)	29	IndonesiaX
8	Open Education (opened.ru)	30	SWAYAM
9	XuetangX	31	NPTEL
10	CNMOOC	32	MooKIT
11	Chinese MOOC	33	IIT BombayX
12	University of China MOOC	34	Shikshit India
13	Zhihuishu	35	Vskills
14	OpenHPI	36	U18
15	Gacco	37	Million Lights
16	Fisdrom	38	Apna Course
17	Open learning	39	UPGrad
18	JMOOC	40	EduKart
19	Ewant	41	LearnVern
20	Open Education	42	Digital Vidya
	Edraak		e-PG pathshala

21		43	
22	Miriadax X	44	LearnVern

Table No. 1
Profile of SWAYAM and COURSERA

SR. NO.	NAME	SWAYAM	COURSERA
1	Developed by	Ministry of Education and NPTEL, IIT Madras with the help of Google Inc. and Persistent Systems Ltd.	Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller
2	Establishment Year	9 July 2017	2012
3	Website	https://swayam.gov.in	https://www.coursera.org
4	Platform	MOOC	MOOC
5	Language	English, Hindi	English
6	Country	India	California, Us
7	National and International Coordinators	9 National coordinators AICTE, CEC, IGNOU, IIMB, NCERT, NIOS, NITTTR, NPTEL, UGC	COURSERA has 300+ collaborators

Table No.1 Shows two learning platform that is SWAYAM and COURSERA. SWAYAM is developed by Ministry of Education and NPTEL, IIT Madras with the help of Google Inc. and Persistent Systems Ltd. and COURSERA is developed by Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller. These two learning platform are very useful for student and professionals to learn new course.

Table No.2

Features of SWAYAM and COURSERA

FEATURES	SWAYAM	COURSERA
Ownership	Government	Private
Teaching Pedagogy	Audio, Video, Text, Self-Assessment, Presentation, Animation, Quizzes, Images, Discussion forum	Video, Audio, Text, Self-Assessment, Transcript, Image Projects, Graded assignment



Types of Courses Offered	School Education, Teacher Education, Under graduation, post- graduation, Technical Education	Degree, Post graduation Professional certificate, Master – track certificate, Specialization degree
Credit transfer in course	Yes	No
Cost	Free, additional cost for certificate	Some paid Courses and some free courses
Collaboration	9 National coordinators	Worldwide Universities and Institutions
Certificate Type	Not Sharable	Sharable Certificate
Languages covered	8 Languages	30+ Languages
Login	Login with SWAYAM account and also with Microsoft Google and Facebook Account	Login with COURSERA account and also with Google Facebook and Apple account
Register	https://swayam.gov.in	https://www.coursera.org
Privacy Policy	Yes	Yes
Download Application	Google Play Store	Apple App Store, Google PlayStore
Connect	Facebook, Instagram, Twitter	Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn Instagram
Helpline/Support	Yes	Yes
Contact Information	Yes	Yes
Terms of Use	Yes	Yes

Table No.2 Shows the basic features of SWAYAM and COURSERA. To access the home page of any website it is necessary to know the basic features. This two learning platform having somebasic feature and facility for self -learning.

Table No.3
Courses of SWAYAM and COURSERA

SR. NO	COURSE NAME	SWAYAM	COURSERA
1	Post-Graduate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Undergraduate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	College	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Free Courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Total	6	4

Table No.3 Shows the courses level provided by SWAYAM and COURSERA. SWAYAM provided the courses form school level, Class 9th to post-graduation level. While in COURSERA provide a course only for graduation and post-graduation level. SWAYAM and COURSERA both are providing free courses and Certificate Courses.

Table No : 4
Subject Wise Courses of SWAYAM and COURSERA

SR. NO.	SUBJECT	SWAYAM	COURSERA
1	Arts and Humanities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Computer Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Data Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Information Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Language Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Math's & Logic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Personal Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Physical Science & Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Social Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12	Annual Refresh Programme in Teaching	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Architecture & Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Engineering & Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Management & Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Teacher Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Total	16	15

Table No. 4 Shows main Subjects provided by SWAYAM and COURSERA. SWAYAM provide 16 main subjects and COURSERA provide 15 main Subjects.

Table No.5

Teaching Pedagogy of SWAYAM and COURSERA

SR. NO.	TEACHING PEDAGOGY	SWAYAM	COURSERA
1	E-Tutorial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Discussion Forum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	E – Content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Self-Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Flexible Schedule	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Mobile Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Graded Assignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Online Test	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Video test	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Homework exercise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Total	7	9

Table No. 5 Shows the Teaching Pedagogy of SWAYAM and COURSERA. SWAYAM provide 7 types of Teaching Pedagogy and COURSERA provide 9 types of Teaching Pedagogy.

Table No : 6

Language Used in SWAYAM and COUSERA

Sr. No	Languages	SWAYAM	Coursera
1	Afrikaans	x	✓
2	Bengali	✓	✓
3	Catalan	x	✓
4	Croatian	x	✓
5	Dutch	x	✓
6	German	x	✓
7	Hindi	✓	✓
8	Italian	x	✓
9	Khmer	x	✓
10	Lithuanian	x	✓
11	Persian	x	✓
12	Portuguese (Brazil)	x	✓
13	Russian	x	✓
14	Spanish	x	✓
15	Tamil	✓	✓
16	Ukrainian	x	✓
17	Vietnamese	x	✓
18	Urdu	x	✓
19	Thai	x	✓
20	Swahili	x	✓
21	Serbian	x	✓
22	Portuguese (Portugal)	x	✓
23	Polish	x	✓

24	Macedonian	x	✓
25	Kinyarwand	x	✓
26	Japanese	x	✓
27	Hungarian	x	✓
28	Greek	x	✓
29	English	✓	✓
30	Czech	x	✓
31	Chinese (China)	x	✓
32	Bulgarian	x	✓
33	Albanian	x	✓
34	Arabic	x	✓
35	Burmese	x	✓
36	Chinese (Traditional)	x	✓
37	Danish	x	✓
38	French	x	✓
39	Hebrew	x	✓
40	Indonesian	x	✓
41	Javanese	x	✓
42	Korean	x	✓
43	Mongolian	x	✓
44	Romanian	x	✓
45	Slovak	x	✓
46	Tagalog	x	✓
47	Turkish	x	✓

Table No.6 Shows the courses provided in number of languages of SWAYAM and COURSERA. SWAYAM provide courses in 9 languages and COURSERA provide courses in 50 Languages.

FINDINGS :

The open learning platform i.e., SWAYAM & COURSERA were browsed to study in details, collected data is presented in tabular form and interpretation were drawn.

Following findings were presented.

- It is observed that SWAYAM is a government initiative platform while COURSERA is a private platform founded by Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller .

- To access the home page of any website it is necessary to know the basic features.

- It is observed that SWAYAM provide 16 main subjects and COURSERA provide 15 mainSubjects.

- It is found that SWAYAM and COURSERA have different types of teaching pedagogy.
- It is found that SWAYAM provide courses in 9 languages and COURSERA provide courses in 50 languages.

CONCLUSION:

“In conclusion, of comprehensive comparative study of SWAYAM and Coursera has illuminated key distinctions across their profiles, basic features, subject-wise courses, teaching pedagogy, and language utilization. SWAYAM, with its emphasis on inclusivity, caters to diverse regional needs, offering a structured learning environment. Coursera, with a global orientation, stands out for its extensive course variety, industry partnerships, and flexible pedagogical approaches.

The distinct profiles of SWAYAM and Coursera reveal that the choice between these platforms’ hinges on factors such as geographical context, language preferences, and individual learning styles. SWAYAM’s commitment to local languages facilitates broader accessibility, whereas Coursera’s use of English as the primary languages enhances global reach.

As the landscape of online education continues to evolve, our study provides valuable insights for learners, educators, and policymakers, emphasizing the importance of aligning platform choices with specific educational objectives and regional considerations.”

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