Taking courses offered by leading global universities, satisfying one's own curiosity, and developing pro-fessional competencies — all of this is possible not only within the walls of a university. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) provide learners with an opportunity to tap into any area, even if they only possess a thirst for knowledge, a personal computer and Internet access.

HSE is very active in providing online courses to the general public. To date, HSE has launched 70 cours-es on Coursera and the National Platform of Open Education (NPOE). In this issue, we will touch upon some of them. We will describe course users, their motivation for taking HSE online courses and impres-sions from e-learning. Furthermore, you will learn how people associated with HSE use MOOCs: how many prospective students sign up for courses while preparing for admission, whether students know that an online course may be included in their curriculum, and who of HSE's instructors are interested in creating their own online courses.

Contents:

HSE ONLINE COURSES[1]

70 HSE courses were created as of July 2016 and made available on the Coursera and NPOE platforms
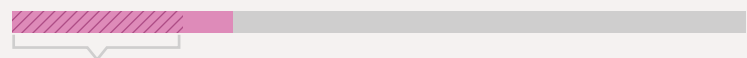
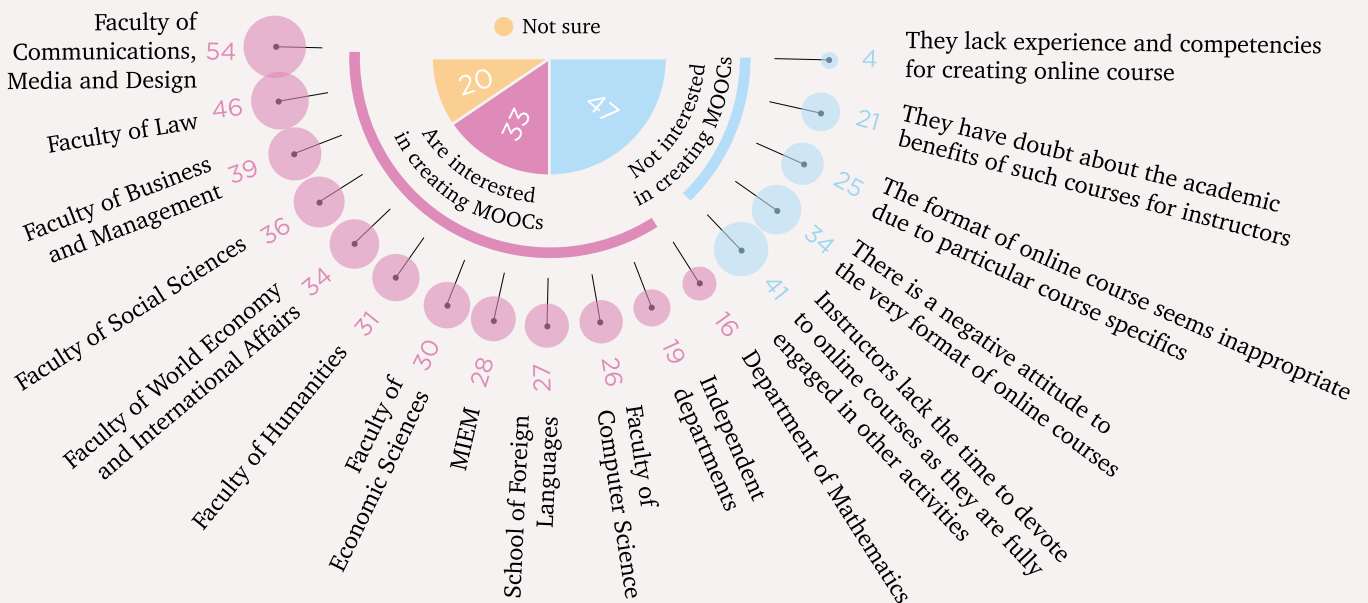**82** instructors took part in the creation of these courses

STUDENTS

Know that online courses may be included in their curriculum

30%

70% students favour this approach

INSTRUCTORS

- Not sure
- Are interested in creating MOOCs — 20 / 33
- Not interested in creating MOOCs — 47

Faculty of Communications, Media and Design — 54
Faculty of Law — 46
Faculty of Business and Management — 39
Faculty of Social Sciences — 36
Faculty of World Economy and International Affairs — 34
Faculty of Humanities — 31
Faculty of Economic Sciences — 30
MIEM — 28
School of Foreign Languages — 27
Faculty of Computer Science — 26
Independent departments — 19
Department of Mathematics — 16

4 — They lack experience and competencies for creating online course
21 — They have doubt about the academic benefits of such courses for instructors
25 — The format of online course seems inappropriate due to particular course specifics
34 — There is a negative attitude to online courses due to the very format of online courses
41 — Instructors lack the time to devote to online courses as they are fully engaged in other activities

In 2014-2015, HSE instructors took online courses on Coursera:

Directly related to their professional activities — **15%**
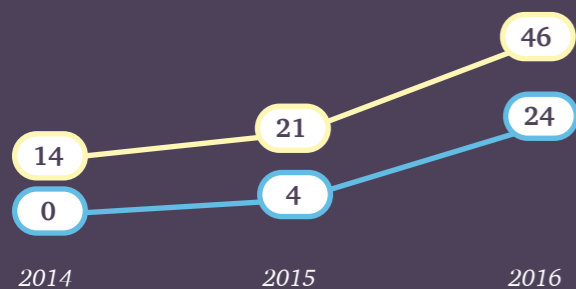
8% — Not related to professional activities

E-LEARNING: COURSE LEARNERS AND THE E-LEARNING EXPERIENCE

● *Information on the National Platform of Open Education*   ● *Information on Coursera*

DYNAMICS IN THE NUMBER OF COURSES ON NPOE AND COURSERA

- 14 (2014)
- 21 (2015)
- 46 (2016)
- 0 (2014)
- 4 (2015)
- 24 (2016)

Открытое образование

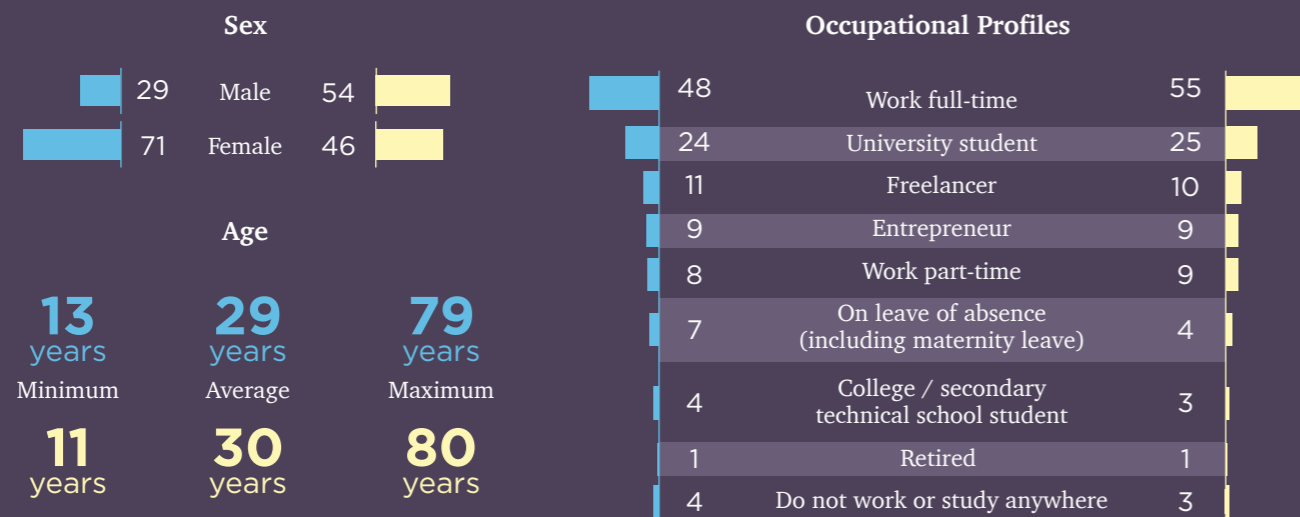**THE FOLLOWING COURSES HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE ANALYSIS:***

- General Sociology
- Econometrics
- Comparative Politics
- Cultural Studies
- Macro-economics
- Marketing
- Media History
- Demography
- Organisational Behaviour
- Organisation Theory
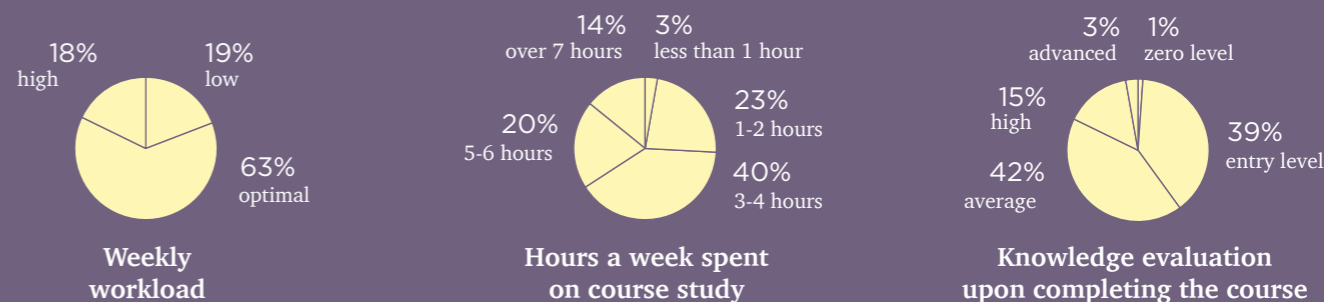- Social Psychology

coursera

THE FOLLOWING COURSES HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE ANALYSIS:*

- Philosophy of Culture
- Institutional Economics
- History and Theory of Media
- Economic Sociology
- Equity Investments
- Economics for Non-Economists
- Game Theory
- Linear Algebra
- Corporat Assets
- Comparative Politics
- Econometrics
- Introduction to the Russian Tax Law
- Securities: Regulatory Environment
- Introduction to LaTeX
- Introduction to Machine Learning
- Introduction to Machine Learning
- Company Valuation
- Financial Markets and Financial Institutes
- Company Valuation
- Introduction to Neuroeconomics
- Understanding Russians: Contexts of Intercultural Communication
- Introduction to Galois Theory

HSE COURSE LEARNER PROFILE

Sex

	Male	Female
● (NPOE)	29	71
● (Coursera)	54	46

Age

	Minimum	Average	Maximum
●	13 years	29 years	79 years
●	11 years	30 years	80 years

Occupational Profiles

● NPOE		● Coursera
48	Work full-time	55
24	University student	25
11	Freelancer	10
9	Entrepreneur	9
8	Work part-time	9
7	On leave of absence (including maternity leave)	4
4	College / secondary technical school student	3
1	Retired	1
4	Do not work or study anywhere	3

Training background

● NPOE		● Coursera
24	Zero level	32
42	Entry level	39
25	Average	23
6	High	5
2	Advanced	1

Work experience in the field related to the course

● NPOE		● Coursera
60	None	72
29	Short period of work	23
11	Long-term period of work	6

Reasons for signing up for HSE courses

● NPOE		● Coursera
93	Curiosity and interest in the subject matter of the course	94
61	Willing to try the MOOC format	50
61	Relevant for current work	58
47	The course was organised by HSE	50
48	Interesting to learn more about the teaching process	45
38	Useful for studies/preparations for studies at the university	40
37	Will be helpful for changing sphere of employment	48
16	Communication with students interested in this topic	27
0	Opportunity to obtain signature track certificate	21
17	Course is presented by a good instructor	27
7	Joined the course together with friends/peers/colleagues	7

LEARNERS' FEEDBACK AFTER COMPLETING THE COURSES

Weekly workload
- 18% high
- 19% low
- 63% optimal

Hours a week spent on course study
- 14% over 7 hours
- 3% less than 1 hour
- 23% 1-2 hours
- 20% 5-6 hours
- 40% 3-4 hours

Knowledge evaluation upon completing the course
- 3% advanced
- 1% zero level
- 15% high
- 42% average
- 39% entry level

94% of learners were satisfied with courses on Coursera

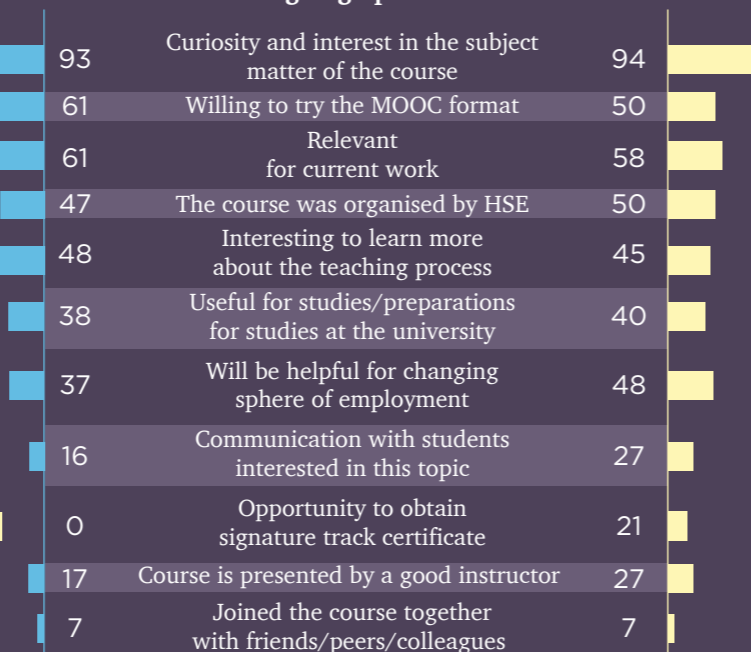**92%** of learners would like to continue studies in the field related to the course

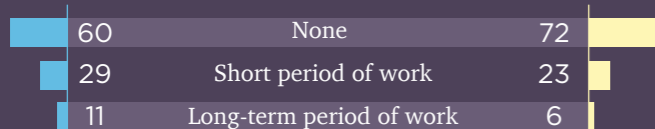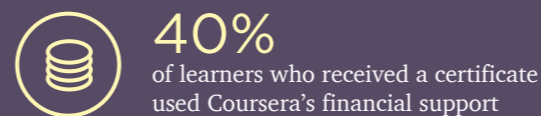**95%** would recommend this course if it is launched again

AFTER COMPLETING THE COURSE…

63% of learners who completed the course on Coursera received the signature track certificate

40% of learners who received a certificate used Coursera's financial support

23% of foreign citizens in 2014-2016 signed up for Russian-taught courses on Coursera. Including: 9% - Ukraine; 3% - Belarus.

FAILED TO OBTAIN NECESSARY SCORES FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

59	no spare time for course studies
28	studied the course materials outof personal interest, but did not aim to get final grades
18	signed up for the course too late
16	the course was too difficult
	signed up for the course
11	merely out of curiosity
6	the course turned out to be boring
2	learned nothing new during the course
1	MOOC format was disappointing
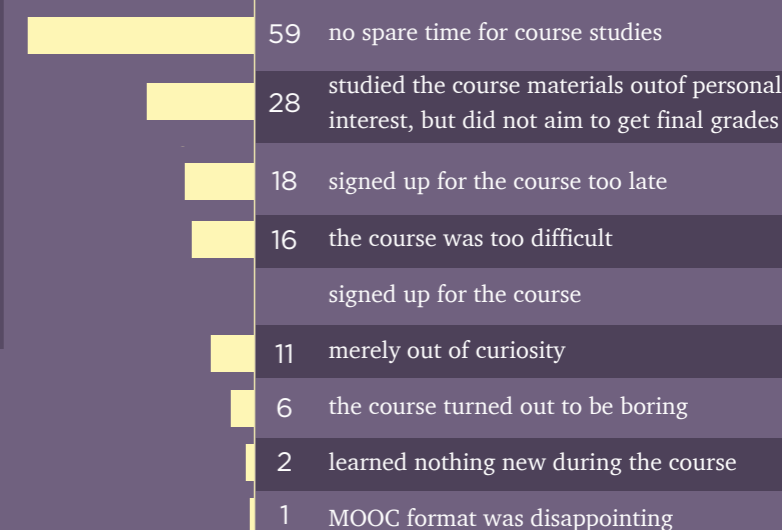
FEEDBACK: STUDENTS' COMMENTS ON ONLINE COURSES AVAILABLE ON COURSERA, 2016[1]

- 🟣 *Would like to continue the course in-depth*
- 🟢 *Plan to consult the course's materials later*
- 🔵 *Would recommend the course to friends/peers/colleagues*

AN INTRODUCTION TO MACHINE LEARNING

🟣 98 — 🟢 88 — 🔵 93

🔍 «The wide range of topics helps to illustrate the world of machine learning in general. The direction and opportunities of further studies are clearly outlined. Analysis of training algorithms and detailed expla-nation of various mathematical formulas can ensure an understanding of how everything works at a basic level, while also paving the way to more sophisticated algorithms»

🔍 «What I most liked in this course is that I now have the ready-to-use parts of programmes that I can apply in my own research work.»

🔍 «Mathematical accuracy and a 'no kidding' attitude regarding the audience – this can barely be found in any Western courses.»

🔍 «The combination of a wide scope and in-depth study of each topic: this course illustrates an idea of the methods usually applied in machine learning, and when and where they can be used.»

FINANCIAL MARKETS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTES

🟣 98 — 🟢 94 — 🔵 100

🔍 «What I liked most was the high-quality presentation of the course materials provided in layman's terms. I also very much liked the presentation of formulas and estimated ratios, illustrated with precise methods and diagrams, etc.»

🔍 «There was sufficient time for comprehending the material. Tests could be taken later if you failed to meet the deadline. There was a highly qualified teacher, as well as a concise and consistent presentation of the course material.»

🔍 «I liked the easy-to-understand presentation of the course material by the teacher, along with the inter-esting practical examples. The course is very well designed for people who want to get an idea of what investments in the stock market are all about, and decide whether or not one should get involved in such operations.»

🔍 The teacher was competent and had good presentation skills.

GAME THEORY

🟣 88 — 🟢 90 — 🔵 95

🔍 «The basic idea of the subject-matter of the course is clearly spelled out: what is the Game Theory and how it can be used in real life. Those interested in this subject have been referred to sources with more detailed information.»

🔍 «Along with the fact that this subject is interesting on its own, students must also rely on their funda-mental mathematical skills, which are often long forgotten since their school days. The course abounds in calculations that are good as an intellectual exercise.»

🔍 «Complex mathematical information is made simple, while theory is illustrated with real life examples. Also, accurately designed quizzes help learners better understand any parts of lectures that might be unclear.»

🔍 «I liked the tests immensely. They are designed in such a way that, while you fill in the answers, you start to grasp more things as you go on, thereby rethinking the studied theory. In addition, the tests have been composed with a touch of good humor.»

NEUROECONOMICS

🟣 96 — 🟢 83 — 🔵 93

🔍 «A completely new subject matter. Really interesting, particularly the results from experiments.»

🔍 «A great introduction in the field that stimulates to research more. Various examples from different fields.»

🔍 «Amazing information. This course helped bridge the gaps that were missing in my understanding of how the brain works.»

🔍 «I enjoy this «compound» of Economics and Science. I think it is the exact thing that makes the whole course interesting.»

🔍 «It is a completely new field of study for me, and I think I got a broad overview to investigate my topic of interest even further. I liked the examples and huge amount of literature/experiments that were shown.»

🔍 «The course was very good. Now I could understand a lot of concepts of neuroscience, better than other courses in Coursera.»

UNDERSTANDING RUSSIANS

🟣 94 — 🟢 81 — 🔵 92

🔍 «I enjoyed the professor, because she was teaching excellent, and the historical parts of the course material.»

🔍 «I liked all the content regarding linguistic/philology issues. I liked the professor`s and staff`s commitment very much. I was delighted to see many students deeply interested in learning more of Russia at the class forums.»

🔍 «I thought the professor did a great job of balancing broad intercultural communication knowledge with focused information on the context of Russia and Russians.»

🔍 «I liked the themes the course dealt with as they were rather new for me.»

🔍 «I really enjoyed how we were encouraged to synthesis the course information from within and from without our personal workview and/or experience(s).»

FIGURE OF THE MONTH

725000

725,000 users signed up for HSE online courses during the period from 2013 to 2016.