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Making a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) about Astrobiology: Why? For Whom? How?

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Abstract

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are becoming the textbooks of the 21st century. I describe what a MOOC is, and try to answer the questions: Why make a MOOC? Who are MOOCs for? and How to make a MOOC? Anxiety about MOOCs replacing teachers is largely misplaced. I describe my on-going experience of putting together an astrobiology MOOC for the Australian National University.

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Table of Contents

Article

	PDF (486.3 KB)	References
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