



# EDX: INNOVATE IN A NEW SPACE

RIT has partnered with edX to build upon our reputation for excellent teaching and for using technology in innovative ways to create new materials and opportunities for learning.

**Provost's Town Hall**  
January 28th, 2016

**Jeremy Haefner**  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Neil Hair**  
Executive Director, ILI



## How we learned about edX

---

**2012:** RIT approached edX about a mutually beneficial partnership.

**2015:** The 2015 AITU meeting was dedicated to online learning for technical universities.

- Speakers included experts from this field, including Anant Agarwal, CEO, edX
- Academic Affairs and Finance & Administration became intrigued with the edX platform and network



## EdX Overview

---

Founded by Harvard and MIT in May 2012, edX is an open source, nonprofit online learning destination and MOOC provider.

EdX offers high-quality online courses from the world's best universities and institutions to learners everywhere.

EdX strives to democratize and re-imagine education by increasing worldwide educational access and creating a culture of continuous, lifelong learning.





## EdX Overview

---

EdX differs from other providers, such as Coursera and Udacity, in that it is a nonprofit organization and runs on open-source software. RIT is not getting into the “MOOC” business. Partnering with edX allows us to stay focused on data collection, research, and experimentation to further teaching and learning vs. profit.

### **The edX mission:**

- Increase access to high-quality education for everyone
- Enhance teaching and learning on campus and online
- Advance teaching and learning through research



## EdX Learners

EdX's reach extends around the world (5+ million users), with representation from every country on every continent.

Approximately 70% of edX students come from outside of the U.S..

### Student body is comprised of:

- Continuing learners (69%)
- University age students (27%)
- High school students (4%)





# EdX Partners

 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Founder	 HARVARD UNIVERSITY Founder	 Berkeley UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Contributor	 THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS SYSTEM Contributor	 Australian National University Contributor	 Think Ahead ACCA Contributor	 BIBLIOTHECA ALEXANDRINA مكتبة الإسكندرية Contributor	 BITS Pilani PILANI Contributor	 CHALMERS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY Contributor	 Colgate UNIVERSITY Contributor	 Curtin University Contributor
 BOSTON UNIVERSITY Contributor	 GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY Contributor	 RWTH AACHEN UNIVERSITY Contributor	 SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉS Contributor	 TU Delft Contributor	 doTERRA Contributor	 Galileo UNIVERSIDAD Contributor	 GEMS EDUCATION Contributor	 Hamilton Contributor	 THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY 香港理工大学 Contributor	 IDB Contributor
 a place of mind THE UNIVERSITY OF BOSTON COLUMBIA Contributor	 THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA Contributor	 ASU ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY Contributor	 Berklee Contributor	 Caltech Contributor	 INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND Contributor	 R.I.T. Contributor	 LINUX FOUNDATION Contributor	 Mandarin Contributor	 MÉXICO CONSEJO EDUCATIVO FEDERAL Contributor	 OPEN EDUCATION CONSORTIUM The Global Network for Open Education Contributor
 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK Contributor	 Cornell University Contributor	 Dartmouth Contributor	 DAVIDSON Contributor	 EPFL ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE Contributor	 大阪大学 OSAKA UNIVERSITY Contributor	 R.I.T. Contributor	 SmithsonianX Contributor	 Tenaris University Contributor	 Tokyo Tech Contributor	 UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE BUENOS AIRES Contributor
 ETH zürich Contributor	 香港科技大学 THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY Contributor	 IIT Bombay Contributor	 Karolinska Institutet Contributor	 京都大学 KYOTO UNIVERSITY Contributor	 THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE Contributor	 RAHMONIEN UNIVERSITY Contributor	 早稲田大学 WASEDA University Contributor	 AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL Contributor	 CATALYST Contributor	 FULLBRIDGE Contributor
 KU LEUVEN Contributor	 McGill Contributor	 北京大学 PEKING UNIVERSITY Contributor	 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY Contributor	 RICE UNIVERSITY Contributor	 HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE Contributor	 IEEE Contributor	 IMB Contributor	 Pau Francisco JAVIERIANA Contributor	 Learning by Giving Contributor	 Microsoft Contributor
 SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY Contributor	 TUM Technische Universität München Contributor	 清华大学 Tsinghua University Contributor	 UCL Université catholique de Louvain Contributor	 UC San Diego Contributor	 MongoDB University Contributor	 PURDUE UNIVERSITY Contributor	 Save a Life X Contributor	 SMITH COLLEGE Contributor	 Trinity College Contributor	 Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Contributor
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO Contributor	 UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO Contributor	 UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON Contributor	 WELLESLEY Contributor	 UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE VALÈNCIA Contributor	 THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE Contributor	 W3C® Contributor	 WITS UNIVERSITY Contributor			



## Strategic reasons for joining edX

---

- Visibility (DM III.10)
- A new network of universities and colleges (DM V.1)
- A complementary platform for the entire campus (DM IV.2)  
*Finance & Administration, Alumni Relations, Student Affairs*
- Access to millions of students (DM I.1.6) – 5+ million
- New teaching and learning tools and resources (DM IV.2)  
*Learning analytics*
- Data for RIT's emerging strength in discipline-based pedagogical research (DM II.1)
- A greater online presence for RIT (DM IV.2.2)



## Additional reasons for joining edX

---

- Explore ways of keeping college affordable by allowing students to graduate earlier
- Experiment with new teaching technologies that may enhance teaching across all modalities
- Enhance on-campus education by applying knowledge gained through exploration with the edX platforms
- Improve development and delivery of online education
- Assist in our global education efforts





## EdX Platforms

**Edx.org** is the online learning platform which hosts all open courses with discoverability and resource support.

**Edge.edx.org** is the exploratory domain where educators can create courses and experiment in a low-visibility environment.

*EdX Studio is the edX tool educators use to build the courses on these two platforms.*



## EdX Learning Options

---

- EdX offers a variety of ways to take courses, including the option to audit a course (no cost) or to work toward an edX Verified Certificate (cost varies by course)
- EdX offers certificates of successful completion, but does not offer course credit
- Whether or not a college or university offers credit for an online course is within the sole discretion of the school
- EdX also offers XSeries Certificates, bundled sets of two to seven verified courses in a single subject (cost varies)



## EdX Learning Experience

---

- EdX courses consist of weekly learning sequences
- Each learning sequence is composed of short videos interspersed with interactive learning exercises, where students can practice the concepts from the videos
- EdX courses often include tutorial videos, quizzes, interactive assessments, and online discussion forums
- EdX courses have also included online laboratories
- Students have access to [edx.org](https://edx.org) support 24/7





ColumbiaX: HIST1.1x The Civil War and Reconstruction - 1850-1861
Trayz ▾

**Courseware** | Course Info | Syllabus | Primary Sources | Maps | Images | About Us | Discussion | Community | Online Conversations

Progress

Bookmarks

▶ Welcome!

▾ Section 1/10: Setting the Stage

Getting Started

**Thinking about the Coming of the Civil War**

Quiz due Dec 22, 2015 at 17:00 UTC

Wrapping Up

▶ Section 2/10: American Slavery

▶ Section 3/10: Historians and the Coming of the Civil War

▶ Section 4/10: Territorial Expansion and Sectional Conflict

▶ Section 5/10: Immigration and Nativism

▶ Section 6/10: Rise of the

Section 1/10: Setting the Stage > Thinking about the Coming of the Civil War > 1.0 What to Expect in the Course

<>

Bookmark

## 1.0 WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE COURSE

1850 - the middle of the 19th century - but the first week we'll be looking back a little before that. We will look at the Civil War as a critical turning point in American history

- its conduct as a war, its impact on American Life, particularly emphasizing the end of **slavery, the emancipation of the four million slaves and the consequences of that for North** and South and the future of the United States. We will then look at Reconstruction, the period after the Civil War, as a struggle over the nature of the reunited nation and the legacy of slavery and its abolition. Now, as some of you know, this is a time period that I







## EdX Research

---

- EdX is utilized for research into learning and distance education by collecting learners' clicks and analyzing data
- EdX member schools and organizations also conduct their own research using data collected from their courses
- EdX research focuses on improving retention, course completion, and learning outcomes in traditional campus courses and online
- EdX partners have access to major universities around the world to collaborate with and further innovation

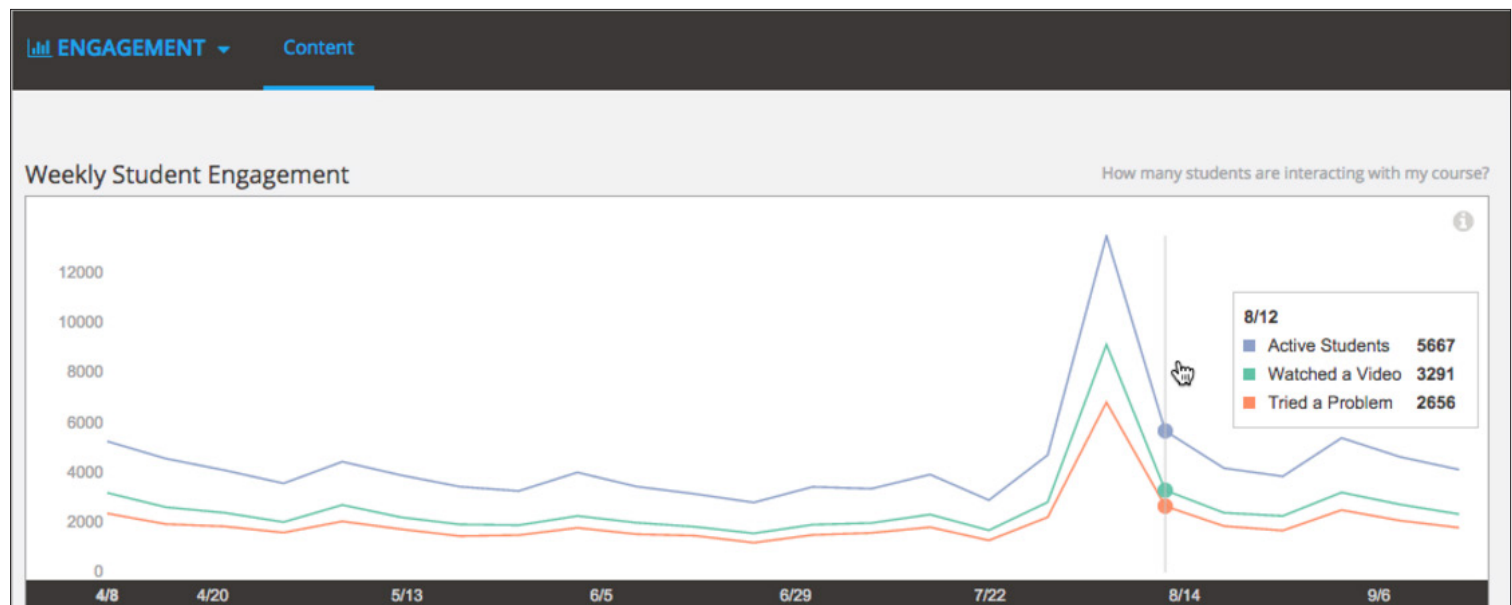




## EdX Analytics

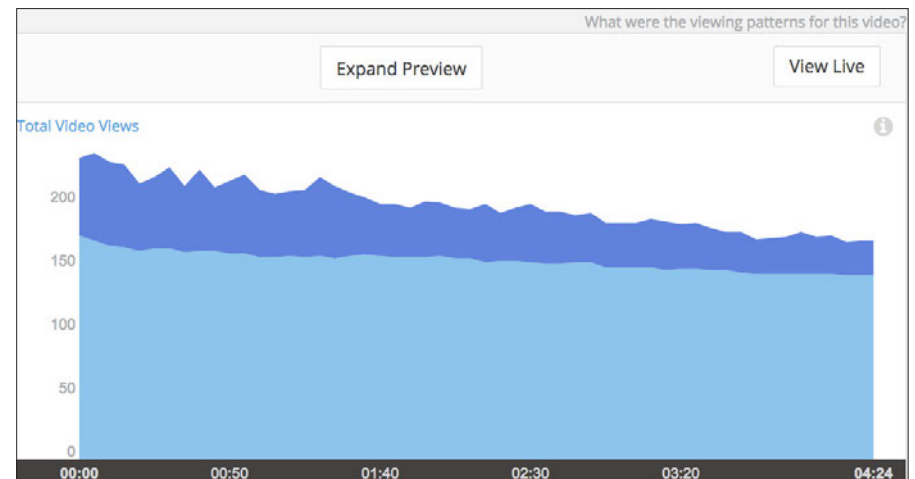
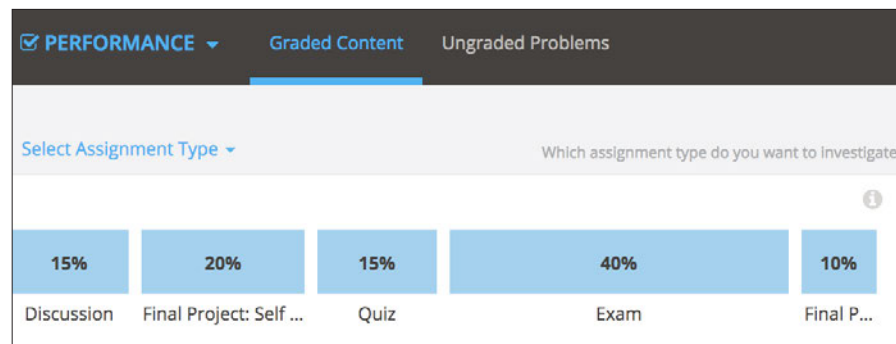
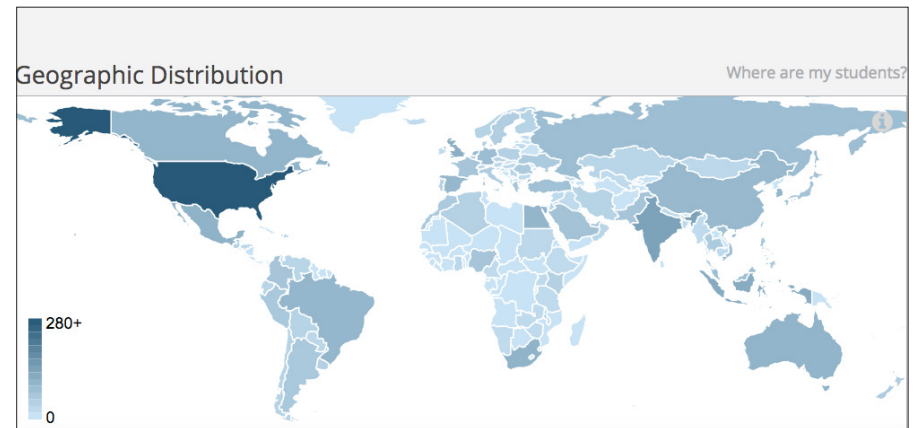
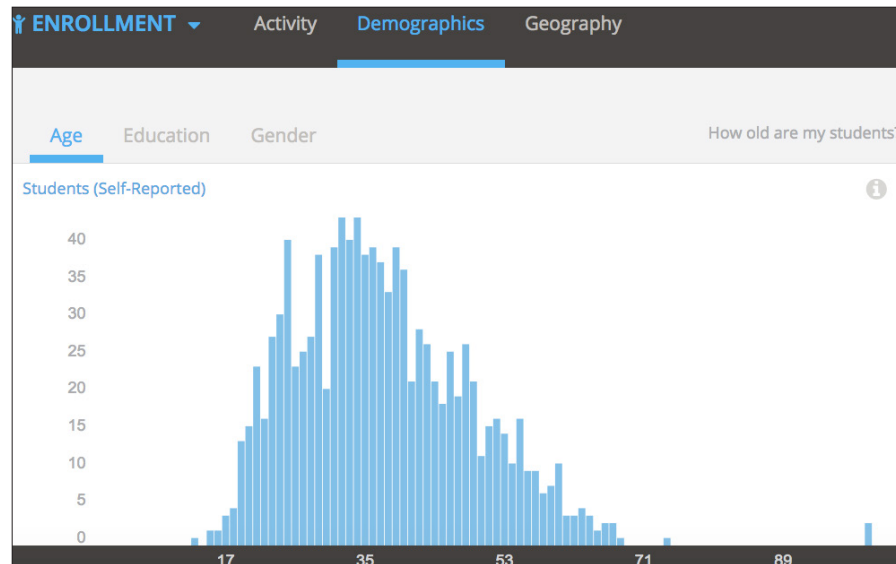
Educators can use the data from the edX Insights Tool to monitor activity, validate choices, reveal unexpected patterns, form hypotheses, and inform plans for their course(s).

For example, this chart displays the number of students who engaged in different activities over time.







# EdX Analytics







# EdX Blog

[Documentation](#) [Course Staff Support](#) [My Account](#) [Logout](#)  

[Getting Started](#) [Defining Your MOOC Strategy](#) [Creating Your Course](#) [Running Your Course](#) [Community](#) [edX Features](#)

[Home](#) » [Community](#) » [Blog](#) » [EdX Is An Idea](#)

## EdX Is An Idea

Submitted by [Joshua Kim](#) on Thu, 11/12/2015 - 1:13pm

[Printer Version](#) [PDF Version](#)

*This post originally appeared on [Inside Higher Ed](#).*

**Higher education credentials need not be scarce.**

Wrap your mind around that sentence.

The idea that higher educational credentials need not be scarce is the idea of edX.

It has taken my participation in four [EdX Global Forums](#), not to mention my own work at [my school on open online learning courses](#) on the edX platform, to finally understand that edX is really an idea.

EdX is not really a consortium. (Although it is a consortium). EdX is not really an open platform. (Although it is an open platform). EdX is not really a website and a global aggregator of lifelong learners. (Although it is both those things).

What edX really is is an idea.

And there is nothing in this world as powerful as an idea.

What in our world has transitioned from scarcity to abundance? (Or near abundance?).



## Next Steps for RIT

---

RIT will establish an edX Advisory Council (EAC) that will help guide the Innovative Learning Institute. The EAC will form two working groups and a wider think tank to include members from the EAC and additional partners from other areas across the university.

### **Working group areas of focus:**

- Accessibility, academic quality, and learning outcomes
- Global visibility and awareness for RIT
- Alternative uses of edX platforms at RIT



## Next Steps for RIT & edX

---

- RIT will hold sessions in the spring to dive into more detail on edX resources, opportunities, and seek input
- The EAC will share their progress at one of the sessions
- RIT will invite key staff from edX and partner universities to share experiences, new ideas, and answer questions
- RIT faculty will share updates on initial edX course offerings

*As part of the contract, RIT must offer two learning modules by September (2016) and announce two more offerings upon launch.*

*EdX has identified two areas of demand, Game Design and UI/UX Design. RIT will be creating offerings in both areas to start.*



## Breakout Session

---

As a group (your table), please answer the following two questions. You should find a handout on your table describing the two edX platforms referenced in the questions.

---

- 1** How might your department or unit use the edX platforms to achieve strategic goals for RIT?
- 2** What barriers might your department or unit face when creating high-quality content on the edX platforms?



## Thank You!

---

Thank you for spending time with us this morning and sharing your thoughts. You can download today's presentation at:

<http://bit.ly/ILIPresentations>