Engaging India: a Bilingual MOOC

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“delightfully idiosyncratic and engaging”
1. Engaging India – Introduction
2. Language and Media: Language in India
3. Technology and Democracy
4. The Pleasures and Powers of Oral Storytelling
5. Post Colonialism
6. Emerging India in the Asian Century: A Myth or Reality?
7. International Relations: India Foreign Relations
8. India’s Security Challenges
10. Conclusion
Learning outcomes

- **Identify and interrelate** the influence of key factors, (language, culture, communication technology, etc.) on India’s development and the challenges they present;

- **Illustrate** how key ideas--push and pull factors-- drive India towards the path of globalisation;

- **Discuss** the dynamic, complex and interdependent nature of various cultural facets;

- **Reflect** on how course learning can be applied to their personal and professional contexts.
Welcome to Week 6

Join Kaliappa Kalirajan, Professor of Economics at ANU as he discusses the concept of the Asian century and the economic growth and power of India and contrasts it with China’s performance. He explains the internal and external benchmarks commonly used to assess economic performance and the factors that may constrain India achieving its potential growth.

INTRODUCTION VIDEO FOR WEEK 6 / छठे हफ्ते का परिचय वीडियो
हफ्ता 6 में आपका स्वागत है।

आइए सुनें डॉ॰ कलिया कालियाजन को जो कि ऑस्ट्रेलियन नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी में इकोनॉमिक्स वाली अर्थशास्त्र के प्रोफेसर है। वे एशियाई सभ्यता की अवधारणा और भारत के आर्थिक विकास और स्तर की बीमा से तुलना करेंगे। वे हमें बताएंगे कि किस तरह से आर्थिक और वाणिज्य मानक आमतौर पर आर्थिक प्रबंधन का आकलन करने के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। वे उन कारकों का भी विश्लेषण करेंगे जो कि भारत को अपनी पूरी सत्यात्मा तक पहुँचने से रोकते हैं।
Language switching

edX localisation for platform

- Changes edX buttons, instructions
- Transifex (for translators)

Course content – you’re on your own

- HTML iframe
- cookie to store language choice
- Calls JSON file for exchanging English and Hindi strings
- Google spreadsheet (for translators)
- Transifex Live Beta – the next solution?
Course activities

Weekly pattern:

- Introduction (text and convenor video)
- Expert lecture (videos with questions)
- Go deeper materials (maps, graphics, readings)
- Discussion forum (3 questions)
- Test or survey
- Summary video (response to discussion forum)
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Assessment

- Quizzes 40%
- Surveys 10%
- Discussion 30%
- Project 20%
Styles of engagement


- Viewers
- Solvers
- All-rounders
- Collectors
- Bystanders
Engaging India – Entrance Survey (End of Week 1) – Course Participation Intention

Survey Language
- English
- Hindi

<table>
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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do everything but the assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do everything, including the assessment</td>
<td>750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Look around</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Look around and watch all the videos</td>
<td>250</td>
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MOOC Weekly Quiz Responses

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<td>Week 9</td>
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</table>
MOOC Survey Responses

Week 1: 1752 English responses, 237 Hindi responses
Week 5: 622 English responses, 71 Hindi responses
Week 10: 259 English responses, 15 Hindi responses
What about discussion forums?

- Q&A usage only is common in Comp Sci MOOCs
- Anderson et al. tried to incentivise participation with badges
- Authenticity?

Ours

- Questions each week targeted to extend and enrich learning
- E-moderators asking careful questions to encourage students to go deeper/ respond in a more scholarly manner/ examine their ideas critically
“The discussion forum, when I look back, I feel, had some very solid, intellectually stimulating questions each week! In hindsight, I also feel that it surprised me too! I look back and think, had it not been for this course I would have never connecting this sort of topic with that issue and looked at it from this perspective.

This brought people from different nationalities, cultural background, educational background, ideological beliefs under a single roof. This has helped all of us learn, relearn and unlearn so much, so well. This particular aspect was responsible for making the course truly international, I could feel I am in an open classroom, where tutors are enlightening our minds and students, teachers and e-moderators were engaging in discourse analysis, discussions, and debates, etc.”

Shweta108 (6 discussions started, 56 comments)
Technical limitations of forums

Doesn’t really support “discussion”

- Overwhelming flood
- Voting system to facilitate identifying “best answers”
- Sub-sections, but students don’t always post there
- Can’t move misplaced posts
- Can’t (easily) see someone has responded to your post

So students respond to early posts, “threads” move on, but “conversations” rarely emerge

- “Responsive monologue”? 
Themes from reflective projects

- Students from India: learn about perspective of an outsider/the rest of the world
- Non-Indians: hear the perspectives and stories of Indians
- Story telling and mobile phones most influential topics
- Debates about India's identity, unity and diversity prevail
- Contrast and comparison between India and various countries (esp. China)
- Multidisciplinary approach a strength (but…)
- Gratitude and joy
Was bilingual worth it?

Aroused curiosity and national pride
• Symbolic gesture
• Encouraging respectful dialogue

Democratisation of education?
• English is the language of education in India
• Awareness in Hindi (non-English) population?
• Most undertook assessment in English
• But may have accessed materials in Hindi?

Authentic advanced language learning
Engaging India - Week 5 Survey - your main reason for using hindi materials?

Survey Language

- English
- Hindi

Reasons:

1. Interest in translation
2. Practising language skills
3. Understanding course, etc.
“I have taken this MOOC as an interesting side-trip in my ongoing study of the Hindi language. This is important as to fully understand a new language you also need to understand the culture that goes along with it. I was particularly interested in Week 2, which examined the diversity of languages in India.”

AlanDownnes