

# EMC and Microcredentials

Master CLass  
Bled  
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# Short Learning Programs

## Aims of E-SLP project:

- Analysis of the field of SLPs in continuing education: report
- Defining the concept and position of Short Learning Programmes (SLPs)
- Developing guidelines for the design, development and implementation of collaborative SLPs and related mobility
- Recognition of SLPs, micro-credentials, quality assurance and accreditation
- Empowering university leadership and staff, including developing institutional policies and frameworks
- Raising the European outreach of blended and online SLPs
- Mainstreaming blended and online continuous education as a specific area of university provision, next to degree education and open education



# European MOOC Consortium





# Founding partners

- U FutureLearn
- U FUN France Université Numérique
- U Miriada X
- U EduOpen
- U OpenupEd



## Aim EMC

- u Increase awareness and use of digital education and MOOCs within universities
- u Increase impact of each of its partners on educational policy
- u Make MOOCs a widely considered option for employers and workers
- u Increasing the credibility and visibility of MOOCs
- u Build a complementary offer of courses
- u Collaboratively build and conduct a research agenda on MOOCs in Europe

# MOOCs for the EU labour market

European project  
Knowledge Alliance

## Partners

- EADTU
- EMC platforms (Futurelearn, FUN, Miriadax, OpenEdu, OpenupEd)
- The Open University, the University of Foggia
- ENPES partners: VDAB, Agenzia Nazionale per le Politiche Attive de Lavoro
- Opcalim
- Other partners






## Demand for a more standardised credential

There is major variation within credentials and between them. Employers need a common standard to support lifelong learning

July 18, 2018

### Analysis of 450 MOOC-Based Microcredentials Reveals Many Options But Little Consistency

Written by  **Laurie Pickard** · 9 minute read · 4 Comments

Microcredential Type	Price Range	Range of Minimum # Months to Complete	Lowest Minimum Effort Per Week	Highest Maximum Effort Per Week
Coursea Specialization	\$27 – \$636	1-15	1 hour	40 hours
edX XSeries	\$90 – \$594	2-10	1 hour	10 hours
FutureLearn Program	\$147 – \$1,685	2-12	2 hours	6 hours
edX Professional Certificate	\$68 – \$2,340	1-15	1 hour	13 hours
Kadenze Program	\$300 – \$900	2-7	6 hours	12 hours
Udacity Nanodegree	\$199 – \$2,400	1-8	5 hours	15 hours
edX MicroMasters	\$536 – \$1,500	3-15	2 hours	20 hours
Coursea MasterTrack	\$2,000 – \$3,474	4-6	4 hours	15 hours
Coursea Professional	\$406 – \$5,980	4-8	8 hours	10 hours

# The opportunity for universities to compete against new entrants in this emerging market

## Training provider micro-credential (e.g. General Assembly)

- Taught and endorsed by industry
- Work relevant and practical

But

- Not accredited
- Not standardised or comparable

## University micro-credential

- Accredited
- Rigorously assessed
- Standardised
- Transferable
- Stackable
- Pathway into other qualifications



**NZQA**  
NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA  
QUALITY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD  
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI YŌ ĀHUA AŌI

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### ABOUT US

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- Our structure

## Micro-credentials system launched

01 Aug 2018

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) is introducing a micro-credential system as part of New Zealand's regulated education and training system.

Micro-credentials are new stand-alone education products intended to enable learners to access specific knowledge and skills in a cost-effective and time-efficient way. They are smaller than qualifications and focus on skill development opportunities not currently catered for in the tertiary education system, and for which there is strong evidence of need by industry, employers, iwi and community.

As the nature of employment and education continues to evolve, it is expected that developing up-to-date skills will become an important way to improve and future-proof the employability of individuals and support the

New Zealand Qualification Authority has launched a microcredential system as integral part of their education system to address skills gaps and the changing nature of work



# Ambition of the EMC with microcredentials

EMC founding partners have voluntarily agreed a shared definition of a microcredential. We hope this will:

- u Lay the foundations for a new qualification to address the needs of employers and learners looking for *smaller units of study that develop relevant skills*
- u Enable courses to be *recognised towards formal qualifications*
- u Enable courses to be *stackable* across different higher education systems in Europe and beyond

In time, we hope to see this framework used more widely by European universities and agencies to facilitate collaborations.

# Common Microcredential Framework (CMF)



- u Have a total Workload (or study time) of no less than 100 hours and no more than 150 hours
- u Be levelled at Level 5/6 or Level 8 in the European Qualification Framework or the equivalent levels in the University's National Qualification Framework
- u Provides a summative assessment that enables the award of an academic credit, either directly following successful completion of the course or via Recognition of Prior Learning upon enrolment as a student on the University's course of study
- u Operates a reliable method of ID verification at the point of assessment
- u Provides a transcript that sets out the learning outcomes for a course, total study hours required, EQF level and number of credit points earned

## Next Steps

- u Launching first micro-credentials later in 2019
- u EMC and EADTU, and their member institutions, will continue dialogue on the future of microcredentials in furtherance of our ambitions

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