

MOOC Participant Demographics:

Forests and Humans: From the Midwest to Madagascar

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All participants in a Coursera MOOC are invited to respond to a demographic survey that gathers information about participant gender, age, race/ethnicity, level and area of education, employment status and industry/field, ability to communicate in English, languages spoken, and where they live. This is a summary of the responses from participants in the Forests and Humans MOOC.

Course Overview

MOOC Name	Forests and Humans: From the Midwest to Madagascar
Course Start Date	September 30, 2015 (4 weeks)
Instructor	Catherine Woodward
Number of Registered Participants	14,620
Number of Active Participants	6,098
Demographic Survey Respondents	1,422

Summary

1. Overall, there are more male Coursera MOOC participants than female participants. In the Forests and Humans MOOC there are more female participants - 55% of participants are female and 44% are male.
2. The average age of Coursera MOOC participants is 36. The average age of participants in the Forests and Humans MOOC, is slightly older, at 39.
3. Overall, 52% of Coursera MOOC participants describe themselves as native or equivalent speakers of English. A higher percentage (61%) of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants describe themselves as native (or equivalent) speakers of English.
4. Overall, 27% of Coursera MOOC participants live in the United States. A higher percentage of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants, 41%, live in the United States. Other countries with 2% or more of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants include United Kingdom (5%), Canada (5%), India (4%), Brazil (3%), Spain (2%), Germany (2%), and Australia (2%).
5. Of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants who live in the United States, 13% live in California and the second highest percentage live in Wisconsin (9%). The 9% of participants who live in Wisconsin is much higher than the overall Coursera average percentage of MOOC participants who live in

Wisconsin (1%). After Wisconsin, the other eight states in the ten most frequently participating states for the Forests and Humans MOOC include New York (7%), Illinois (5%), Washington (5%), Florida (5%), Texas (4%), Pennsylvania (4%), Michigan (3%), and Virginia (3%).

6. Overall, 77% of Coursera MOOC participants have a bachelors degree or higher (35% bachelors degree, 31% masters degree, 6% doctoral degree, 5% professional degree). The percentage of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants with a bachelors degree or higher is slightly lower at 72%.
7. Most Coursera MOOC participants are not enrolled in school. Sixty-nine percent (69%) report that they are not enrolled either full or part-time. A similar percentage of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants, 70%, are not enrolled in school.
8. The MOOC participants who indicated they had a college degree (including an associate's degree) were asked about the field of their degree. Overall, the Coursera MOOC participants most commonly indicated degrees in Engineering/Engineering Technology (21%), Computer/Information Science (16%) and Business/Management/Marketing (14%). The most common degree field for Forests and Humans MOOC participants was Engineering/Engineering Technology (14%) followed by Biological/Biomedical Sciences (12%) and Social Sciences/History (12%). Compared to the overall Coursera percentage, Forests and Humans MOOC participants also had higher percentages of degrees Biological and Biomedical Sciences (12% compared to the Coursera average of 5%), Social Sciences/History (12% compared to the Coursera average of 8%) and Agriculture and Natural Resources (5% compared to the Coursera average of 1%). Compared to the overall Coursera percentage, Forests and Humans MOOC participants had lower percentages of degrees in Computer/Information Science (7% compared to the Coursera average of 16%) and Business (10% compared to the Coursera average of 14%).
9. Almost three quarters of Coursera MOOC participants are employed either full or part time. A slightly lower percentage of the Forests and Humans MOOC participants, 65%, are employed full or part time.
10. The MOOC participants who indicated that they were employed were asked about their industry/field. The most common responses overall were computers/mathematics, education/library related, and business/financial. The Forests and Humans MOOC participants were more likely than the overall Coursera MOOC participants to be employed in the life/physical/social science fields and the education/library field. They were less likely to be employed in the computers/mathematics and business/financial fields.

The following tables provide more information about all of the responses to the Coursera demographic survey.

Gender	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Male	43.8	60.2	16.4
Female	55.4	39.3	-16.1

Age	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Average	38.7	35.9	-2.8

English Speaking Ability	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Native or equivalent	61.1	51.9	-9.2
Sufficient for most situations	33.1	41.3	8.2
Sufficient for limited situations	5.9	6.8	0.9

Country of Residence (2% or more of participants)	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
United States	41.2	27.3	-13.9
United Kingdom	5.1	3.7	-1.4
Canada	4.5	3.1	-1.4
India	4.3	8.0	3.7
Brazil	2.5	4.6	2.1
Spain	2.4	2.5	0.1
Germany	2.3	1.4	-0.9
Australia	2.2	1.8	-0.4

State of Residence for U.S. Residents (Top 10)	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
California	12.8	18.0	5.2
Wisconsin	9.3	1.2	-8.1
New York	6.7	8.2	1.5
Illinois	4.7	4.3	-0.4
Washington	4.6	4.6	0.0
Florida	4.6	4.8	0.2
Texas	3.9	6.3	2.4
Pennsylvania	3.5	3.8	0.3
Michigan	3.2	3.5	0.3
Virginia	3.0	3.5	0.5

Highest Level of School Completed	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Bachelors	34.1	34.9	0.8
Masters	28.9	30.9	2.0
Some College	17.0	8.9	-8.1
High School	9.2	7.1	-2.1
Doctorate	5.6	6.1	0.5
Professional	4.6	4.6	0.0

Degree-Related Subjects for Participants with Degrees	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Engineering/Engineering Tech.	14.1	21.1	7.0
Other	13.0	15.3	2.3
Biological/Biomedical Sciences	12.3	5.0	-7.3
Social Sciences/History	11.8	7.9	-3.9
Business/Management/Marketing	10.0	14.4	4.4
Computer/Information Science	6.5	16.1	9.6
Education	6.3	5.0	-1.3
Liberal Arts and Sciences	5.2	2.9	-2.3
Agriculture and Natural Resources	5.1	1.3	-3.8
Health Professions	4.6	4.6	0.0
Physical Sciences	4.5	3.4	-1.1
English Language and Literature	3.4	2.9	-0.5
Mathematics/Statistics	3.2	5.1	1.9

Current Enrollment Status	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Not currently a student	69.9	68.5	-1.4
Enrolled full-time	20.0	20.9	0.9
Enrolled part-time	10.1	10.6	0.5

Current Employment Status	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Employed Full-Time (>=35 hrs/wk)	45.1	60.1	15.0
Unemployed, Not Looking	21.9	14.7	-7.2
Employed Part-Time (< 35 hrs/wk)	19.6	13.7	-5.9
Unemployed, Looking for Work	13.4	11.5	-1.9

Industry, if employed or seeking employment	Forests and Humans	All Coursera MOOCs	Difference (Coursera-UW)
Education/Library	20.2	15.5	-4.7
Other	17.7	17.3	-0.4
Computers/Mathematics	10.4	23.8	13.4
Business/Financial/Sales	10.1	11.6	1.5
Life/Physical/Social science	9.8	3.9	-5.9
Healthcare/Social Services	8.9	9.6	0.7
Arts/Entertainment/Sports	7.0	6.4	-0.6
Office/Administrative	6.0	3.3	-2.7
Architecture/Engineering	5.7	6.9	1.2
Management	4.2	5.6	1.4