Higher Education and Digital Transformation: The UOC case

Higher Education Partnerships for Social Impact
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Daniel Riera i Terrén
Vicedean of R&I Dept. of Computing, Multimedia and Telecommunications

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DT is already helping us with SDG 4 …but are we (HE) helping DT?

Ensure **inclusive** and **equitable quality education** and promote **life-long learning** opportunities for all

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Who are we?

We are the first online university in the world. We were born in 1995. So, we are quite young.

What do I want to explain you?

Digital Transformation is in our DNA. We have already faced many challenges of DT and are transforming the world with its help.

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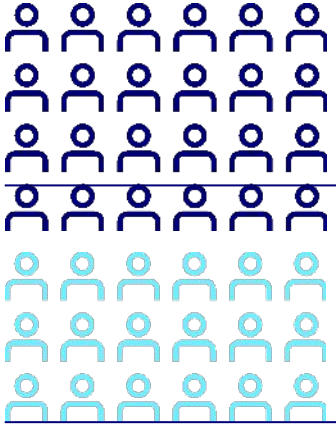

64,512 Graduates*

58,383 Students*

4,330 Teaching staff

* Data for academic year 2016/2017

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Which are the advantages we have met in the last 24 years in UOC?

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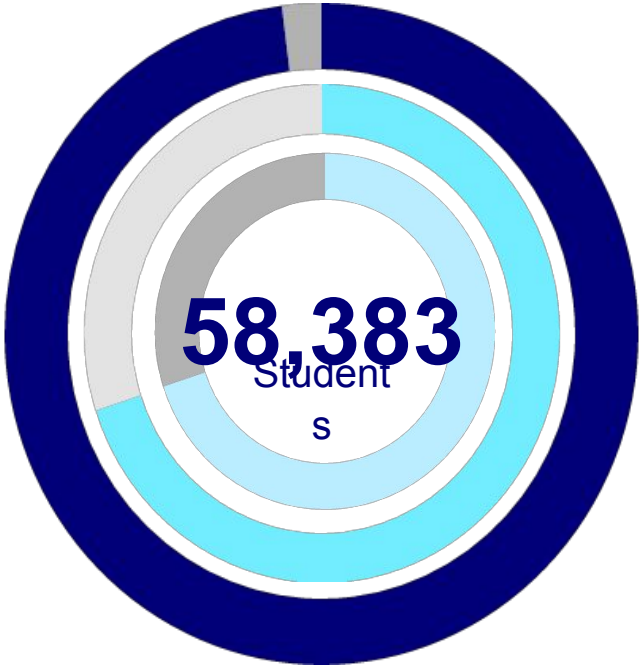
Flexibility

No time constraints (…at the moment, less time constraints)



93%
study and have a job

61%
are aged 30 or over

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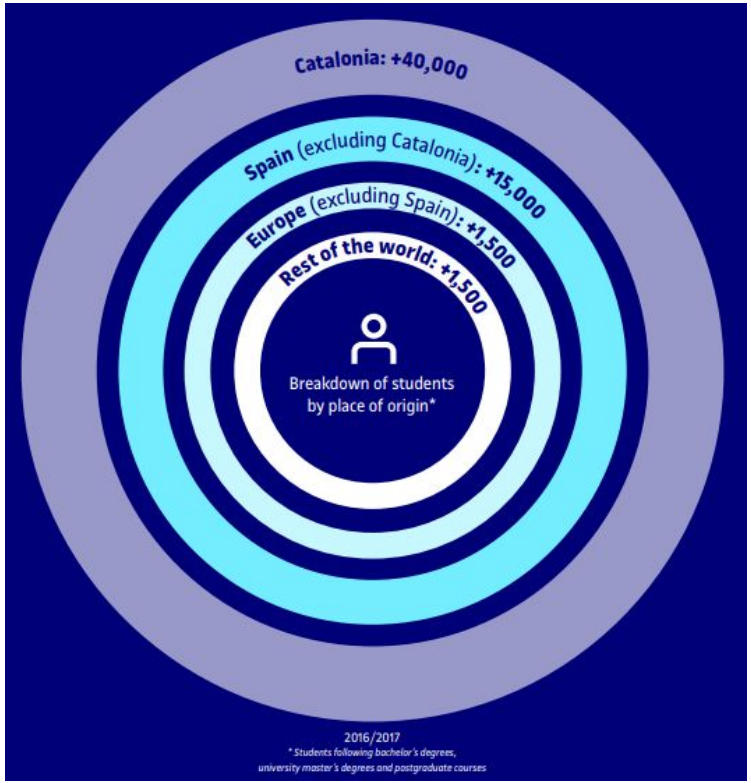
Flexibility

Reachability

No space/distance constraints (…if you have Internet access)



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Scholarship programme for refugees

Flexibility

Reachability

No space/distance constraints (…if you have Internet access)

Reach the unreached!

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Flexibility

Reachability

Diversity

Mixing people from around the world and different backgrounds enriches everybody

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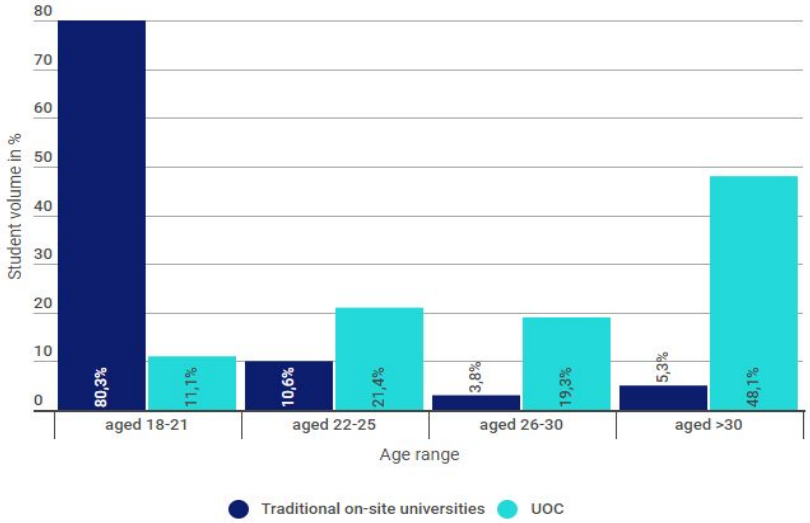
New enrolments in the Catalan HE system



Flexibility

Reachability

Diversity

Complementarity

Online and blended complement traditional courses

Mobility and cooperation with other universities

Data for the academic year 2016/2017

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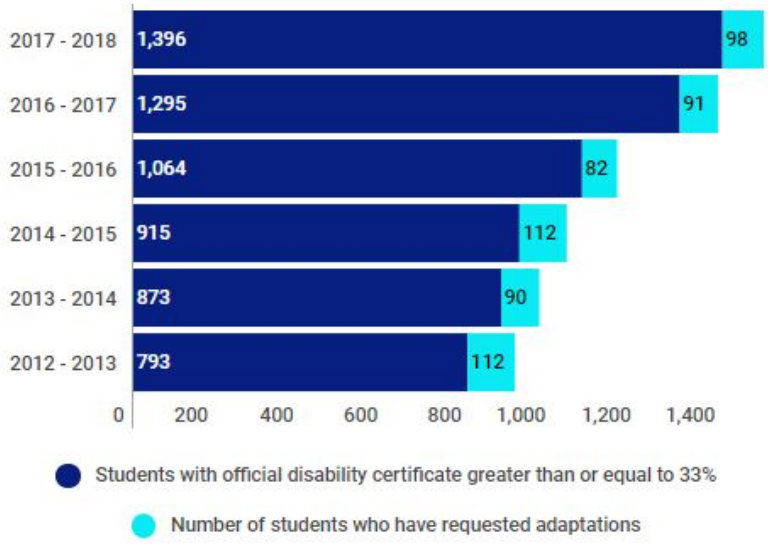
UOC students with functional diversity



Flexibility

Reachability

Diversity

Complementarity

Inclusiveness

Access for those with no access

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…but what about challenges and drawbacks?

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We said FOR ALL

OCDE says ALL means 400 million people by 2030*.

That means we should be creating two universities for 20.000 students per day during the next 20 years.

** www.oecd.org/edu/skills-beyond-school/highereducationto2030vol1demography.htm*

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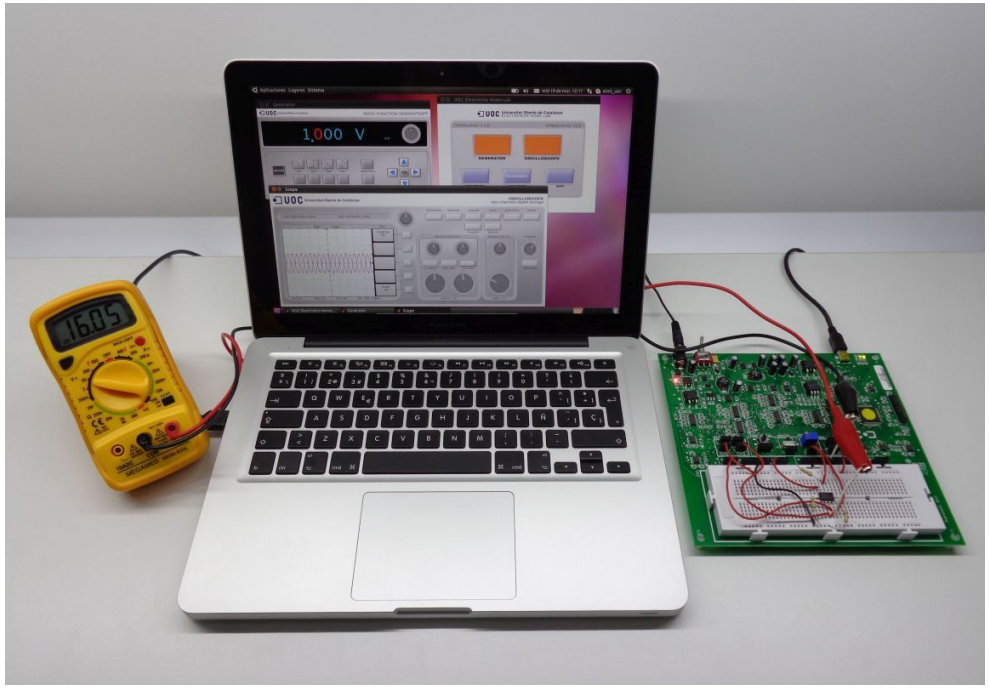
We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Strong investment in technology and maintenance



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We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Dig. literacy needed

Students, teachers, tutors, management staff, …

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We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Dig. literacy needed

Quality assurance

Avoid the quality-quantity equilibrium.

Quantity can be good!

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We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Dig. literacy needed

Quality assurance

Reputation & trust

We play with the same rules as the rest

TeSLA - An Adaptive Trust-based e-assessment System for Learning (H2020)

Total Budget: 7 M€ (6 M€ from EU)

18 Partners (130 members)

8 Universities 3 Quality Agencies

4 Research Centers 3 Enterprises

TeSLA

Adaptive trust-based e-assessment

We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Dig. literacy needed

Quality assurance

Reputation & trust

Legal issues

Different legal systems around the world: contracts, use of data, …

We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Dig. literacy needed

Quality assurance

Reputation & trust

Legal issues

Reset the system

We cannot copy+paste what we were doing till now

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We said FOR ALL

Tech. dependence

Dig. literacy needed

Quality assurance

Reputation & trust

Legal issues

Reset the system

Open knowledge

Ethical issues

Whose is knowledge?

What about AI? And data?...

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We said FOR ALL

Legal issues

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Quality assurance

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Reputation & trust

Are we…?

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Invitation:
UOC site visit
February 27-28 2019
Barcelona

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uoc.edu

Grateful for your attention!

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