

Archived Information

MITOPENCOURSEWARE
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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REACTION TO MIT OCW AMONG U.S. USERS

Users from around the United States and the world have overwhelmingly endorsed the concept of open sharing of educational materials and information as it is exemplified in the MIT OpenCourseWare (MIT OCW) Web site. Since it opened to the public on September 30, 2002, users from every country in the U.S. — and more than 215 territories, and city-states around the world — have visited MIT OCW. Utilizing our Feedback Form educators, students, self-learners, and MIT alumni have sent nearly 30,000 email messages, including the following:

Accessibility

"This was the best ever idea in education. You are progressive and visionary. I have three children, ages 13, 12 and 9; and we live in a semi-rural town with limited access to AP courses. With this opportunity, I can guide my children in math, science and technology. We are learning academic courses, and acquiring self-discipline and good learning habits." — *Educator and parent in the United States*

"I am just amazed and impressed at how MIT is giving our home-schooled kids the opportunity to have access to quality education in a free and open environment! Thank you for following in the footsteps of Linus Torvalds' free and open-source code, and blazing the trail in the education system." — *Educator and parent in Tampa Bay, FL*

"MIT you did it again. Providing sciences to people with an interest in science but, not either financially stable to afford the course or intimidated by science itself. As for me being in the military and interested in the sciences, it is hard to find a nearby school that offers the sciences; thanks for you desire to spend educational opportunity to others." — *Self learner in Oak Harbor, WA*

Affordability

"I cannot currently afford to go to college, but this allows me to prepare for when I can. While I am working full time, I have the option of picking up the information, learning on my own time and being prepared for when I make the jump back to college. Thank you MIT!" — *Self-learner and system administrator in Rochester, NY*

"The first time I learned about OCW, I was at my desk at work. I was so surprised and happy that I sent the link to everybody in the office. I am an African-American single parent who could have never afforded an MIT education, but because of your generosity not only do I have access to this treasure chest, my 6th grader is now learning Japanese through OCW. I can't wait to see your advanced French courses. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity. My future is looking bright." — *Self learner and parent in New York, NY*

"MIT's OCW is about the greatest thing any institution of higher learning has ever done. There are so many people who are more than willing to read and try to learn, but see absolutely NO WAY to afford, or commit the needed time to, any kind of actual classes. This program gives them a chance to educate themselves."

— *Self-learner in Cheyenne, WY*



Quality

"MIT OCW offers me a wonderful resource for continuing learning, and professional development. I often benchmark my course syllabi against the MIT OCW course syllabi. Thank you so much for this incredible tool."

— **Educator in Cambridge, MA**

"I attend Northwest Missouri State University and I enjoy being able to compare our classes to yours and seeing the similarities and differences within each individual course. I like the fact that I can view everything without any form of registration, thank you." — **Student at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO**

"I check here often to compare my own efforts at teaching college mathematics with your online course materials. Thank you!" — **Educator at Sewanee College in Sewanee, TN**

"I am a professor at New York Institute of Technology for the telecommunication department and I think that the notes and programs from the Java course are excellent. We just made the transition from C++ to Java and planning to use the notes for our Java class."

— **Educator at New York Institute of Technology in New York, NY**

Workforce

"I have worked as a chemistry teacher, a biochemist, a software test engineer and currently am a SAP business analyst. I have to let you know how valuable your site has been for me. When I run into a situation where I need to know how to do something, I can find someone in our organization that can help out. However, when I need to understand something bottom up — there is just one site I come to and that is this site and I have been more than happy with the experience." — **Self-learner in Plano, TX**

"This is the greatest Web site ever! I've been a subscriber of *Technology Review* for years now. As an owner of an electrical/mechanical repair and improvement business I had questions concerning polyphase transformers. The information provided by your site proved to be invaluable. Keep up the good work in educating our society."

— **Self-learner in the United States**

This is an outstanding service offered by MIT! As a senior engineer at Hewlett Packard and busy father of 4, I don't have time to take many courses. This is a tremendous way of staying current in your industry and learning new skills. Thank you MIT!!!" — **Self-learner and parent in the United States**