

First Announcement

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# Mobiles for Development



a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) by IIT Kanpur and COL

Register at <http://m4d.colfinder.org>

## About the Course

The spread of mobile phones in developing countries has been spectacular. More people have access to cell phones today than to clean water.

This course is about important concepts and practices in mobile technologies that are relevant to learning and education, agricultural extension and rural credit and finance. This course will be taught in English.

## Outcome for Learners

At the end of the course, learners will be able to:

- Recognize frequently used terminology in mobiles for development
- Identify relevant techniques and methods
- Recount key case studies and best practices
- Recognize common policy requirements for successful implementation of mobiles in education, agricultural extension, and rural credit and finance.

## Learner Certification

Certificates of participation will be jointly issued by the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITKanpur) and Commonwealth of Learning (COL) upon successful completion of the course.

## Requirements

This course is open and free to any learner. There are no pre-requisites. Any interested individual may register and participate.

Course name	Mobiles for Development
Start date	October 2, 2013
Duration	6 weeks
Offered and certified by	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur Commonwealth of Learning
Pre-requisites	none
Register at	<a href="http://m4d.colfinder.org">http://m4d.colfinder.org</a>

## Who Should Attend This Course

This course would be of particular benefit to:

- Teachers
- Teacher educators
- Administrators in ODL organizations
- Banking personnel in loan appraisal, and rural and agricultural credit
- Managers of micro-finance organizations and community banks
- Agricultural extension personnel in public and private sector
- Civil servants with interest in e-Governance
- Officials in ministries responsible for use of mobiles
- Mobile tech Developers
- Students in ICT for development courses

## Course Content

The course will be delivered in two parts:

1. Core topics in technology
2. Specialized modules related to human development. Learners can select one or more or all of the following three specializations: (1) education/m-learning, (2) rural banking and finance, (3) agricultural extension.

### Core Technology Topics

- The Mobile Eco-system
- Anatomy of a handset
- Introduction to Mobile Operating Systems
- Introduction to Android
- Connectivity
- Internet technologies for mobile
- Cloud and virtualization tech and mobiles
- Mobile as a multi-purpose device- sensors, noise pollution monitors, location-aware services
- Speech technologies in mobiles
- Cooperative problem solving (Twitter)
- Crowd sourcing
- Social networking

### Three special modules

- Mobiles in education (focus on pedagogies and delivery of services) - with case studies
- Mobiles in non-formal or rural credit and finance- with case studies
- Mobiles in Ag extension, farmers advisory and marketing of produce

A learner is expected to cover most technology topics and at least one specialized module.

### Commitment & Support

The expected commitment of learners is 4 hours/week on an average. Instructors and mentors will be available online through the duration of the course to discuss topics and issues.

### Institutions

**Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur** is a premier research university that is pioneering a number of advances in mobile technologies and their applications ([www.iitk.ac.in](http://www.iitk.ac.in)).

**Commonwealth of Learning** is an inter-governmental organization in the Commonwealth family, and is globally known for its efforts and advocacy to improve access to learning at all levels ([www.col.org](http://www.col.org)).

### Contact

For more information contact [m4dinfo@colfinder.org](mailto:m4dinfo@colfinder.org)

## Course Team

Professor TV Prabhakar  
IIT Kanpur  
*Principal Instructor & Lead for Ag Module*

Dr. Balwinder Sodhi  
IIT Ropar

Mr. Ashish Agarwal  
IIT Kanpur

Dr. V Balaji  
Commonwealth of Learning

Dr. K Balasubramanian  
Commonwealth of Learning

Dr. Abdurrahman Umar  
Commonwealth of Learning

Mr. Ricky Cheng  
Commonwealth of Learning

## Invited Speakers & Mentors

Professor Mohamed Ally  
Edmonton, Canada  
*Lead for Education/m-learning module*

Dr. Aga Palalas  
Toronto, Canada

Professor Ajit Chaturvedi  
IIT Kanpur

Professor Rajesh Hegde  
IIT Kanpur

Professor Y N Singh  
IIT Kanpur

Professor Aditya Jagannadham  
IIT Kanpur

Professor Runa Sarkar  
Indian Institute of Management Calcutta

Professor Mainak Chaudhuri  
IIT Kanpur

Ms. Meeta Bagga  
IIT Kanpur

Mr. Keerti Kumar  
IIT Kanpur

Lt. Commander Jitesh Saini

Lt. Commander Awanish Chaudhary

## Support Team

Ms. Helen Askounis  
Commonwealth of Learning

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