


# Web of Knowledge

In September, Caltech and JPL offered an unusual take on the massive open online course (MOOC) model: a two-week-long “virtual summer school” class, providing advanced instruction by experts at Caltech and JPL on the computational skills and methods used in the analysis of complex data sets—also known as “big data.”

The Caltech-JPL Summer School on Big Data Analytics was the first professional summer class offered by the online learning platform Coursera. At the end of the

two-week term, all of the developed content was migrated to Coursera’s new on-demand course platform, so now you, too, can take a stab at learning to analyze complex collections of information from the comfort of your home.

Speaking of big data, Caltech has posted some impressive numbers since the Institute started offering online courses two years ago:

 **242,400**  
online students have participated in Caltech’s MOOCs offered through Coursera and edX

**>1.1 million**

is the number of views of Caltech MOOC content offered on YouTube and iTunes U

**~550** Caltech students have taken Caltech courses using MOOCs as a component of the flipped-classroom model

**(500**  **= average hours spent creating each new MOOC offering)**  
**20 hours** is the amount of time it takes to prepare the same MOOC for a second offering

*For more information on the online courses offered by Caltech, visit [online.caltech.edu](http://online.caltech.edu).*