MOOC

VFTH

5/29/14

How would you like to take a course at WKU for free? You will get your chance starting this Sunday when Western Kentucky University offers it’s very first MOOC.

Amy Bingham explains what a MOOC is in this week’s View from the Hill.

MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Course. It’s a big trend in Higher Education and WKU is getting in the game by offering a course on the Origins and Progression of Sports in America.

Dr. Randy Deere \ Retired WKU Professor

Lauren Moseley \ Graduate Student

“It’s education and it’s entertainment.”

That’s how retired faculty member Randy Deere describes a MOOC, which is a Massive Open On-line Course.

 “There’s all kinds of Moocs out there on any kind of topic and if they have an interest on a topic, they’re gonna find a Mooc that’s free, it’s open and they can take it and be entertained by it.”

Deere, who’se been on the hill since 1983 when he started out as an athletics trainer, was asked to develop WKU’s first Mooc.

 “I thought, what better topic than origin and history of sports?”

It’s a topic that appeals to grad student Lauren Moseley who’se already signed up.

 “I’m a huge football fan and I would like to know more about how the NFL came to be what it is today.”

Moseley is also looking forward to the interactive component of the MOOC.

 “That was another reason I thought this would be interesting and fun to see who all I’m communicating with because you just never know who’se in the course with you.”

With topics ranging from breaking barriers to what is a sport, Deere predicts some lively on-line communication.

 “Students will have the opportunity to share their opinion, justify their opinion and tell what they think is a sport. I’m really looking forward to that one, I think we’re gonna stir up some good conversation.”

While putting WKU in national conversations when it comes to on-line learning.

The free six week on-line course begins this Sunday, June first. You can sign up for an amateur or professional certificate.

To sign up, you can log onto [www.coursesites.com/s/\_WKUKRS](http://www.coursesites.com/s/_WKUKRS).

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

###