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Developing a Massive Online Open Course on Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control

Nuclear weapons and arms control education is becoming increasingly important, both in educational environments and in society in general. There is a growing need to improve the capacities of universities, international institutions, and governments to promote evidence and fact-based social dialogue about nuclear weapons and related arms control agreement and treaties. At the University of British Columbia, Dr. Allen Sens (Department of Political Science) and Dr. Matt Yedlin (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering) teach a unique course on nuclear weapons and arms control. We will describe the features of the course, which include: team-teaching, interdisciplinary content across the arts and sciences, arts and engineering student enrollment, online instructional videos, in class participation, and engagement with CTBTO materials. This course has been very successful but is accessible only to UBC students. Our plan is to create a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) accessible to the public. We will describe the current design of this proposed course, and the teaching technologies and methods used in its delivery. We will use the occasion of SnT2017 to invite input and possibly solicit potential partners and collaborators in this project.

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