



Manuela Verduci

Curriculum Vitae

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Manuela's passion for digital education started **eight years ago**, when she joined the newly founded startup **iversity** as one of its first employees. She helped build a company that would then become one of the biggest **European MOOC providers, with more than 1 million students**, taking the initiative to **internationalise the business** from day one. In her role, she was a **consultant for European partner universities in digital strategy** and supported them through **concepting and production of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)**. Her Business Development team also developed a very strong **educational offer for professionals** who want to enhance their **21. century skills**, central for the business model of the company.

In 2016, she joined Kiron Open Higher Education (Kiron), to work on a project for the **Ministry of Education of Germany**, supporting Kiron in building a **blended learning program for 30,000+ refugee students**. Her focus here has been co-designing the academic curriculum, **exploring different pedagogical approaches in online and blended learning**, experimenting with instructional design, and combining asynchronous elements with live online classes. As a **digital learning consultant** she recently helped one of the world wide biggest logistics companies develop an on- and offline education program for **4000+ top managers**. Additionally she works as a **lecturer** at the newly founded **CODE University**, where she teaches **Philosophy of Technology**.

She also **authored and developed** a [train the trainer online course](#), available on *On Campus*, the digital platform of the university of Lübeck. During the corona crisis in March 2020, an [updated version of this program](#) was chosen over hundreds of projects by a Ministerial Program ([WirvsVirus](#)) to address the digital learning challenges connected to the lockdown. The program is currently in the process of being further implemented.

Work Experience

Instructional Designer [Kiron Open Higher Education](#), 2016 – present - *Main responsibilities and achievements*: Developing concepts for innovative pedagogical approaches for blended learning; designing synchronous digital and offline courses through Google Hangout and Google Classroom; coordinating parts of the project for the Ministry of Education and managing the Direct Academics team; conducting scientific research on strategies to enhance engagement in the digital classroom and on learning portfolios; building an [online training program for instructors](#) to learn about new pedagogical approaches for working with diverse student groups in the digital environment. Building an academic digital curriculum for refugee students, with a focus on synchronous online teaching; developing strategies to engage students through community management;

Lecturer - [CODE, University of Applied Sciences](#), 2018 . present - *Main responsibilities and achievements*: Co-developing a Curriculum for the *Science Society and Technology Module (STS)*, working on different

innovative pedagogical approaches, project and challenge-based learning experiences, regular lecturing and holding seminars about Technology and Philosophy,

Digital Education Consultant - self employed - 2017 - present - *Main responsibilities and achievements:*

Designing digital educational programmes for companies, mainly focussing on enhancing management skills for the 21st century. The main project so far consisted of supporting one of the biggest global logistic companies in rolling out a blended educational programme for +4.000 managers worldwide

Business Development Manager - [iversity](#), 2014 – 2016 - *Main responsibilities and achievements:* Developing digitalisation strategies for several European companies; identifying potential business opportunities by actively reaching out to partners; establishing and maintaining partnerships with German and Italian corporates; developing a distribution strategy for the B2B Market.

Academic Partnership Manager, Country Manager Italy - [iversity](#), - 2012 - 2014 *Main responsibilities and achievements:* Contributing to the development of a digital strategy for European academia; establishing partnerships with European universities; consulting on digitization projects; Working on several EU projects on digital education; Representing the company as a speaker at conferences and events; Internationalising the business by establishing the company's first academic partnerships with several Italian universities.

Education

Master Degree in Philosophical Sciences

Freie Universität Berlin and University of Florence, Final degree mark: **110/110 cum laude**.

Bachelor Degree in Philosophy

University of Florence, Final degree mark **110/110 cum laude**

Languages

English & German - Fluent

French and Spanish - Very good

Italian - Native

Published Books

[Stranierità - Una filosofia dell'altrove](#), Editrice Clinamen, 2017

[On Community - A Modern Manifesto](#), Thousand Network Ltd., 2017, co-authored

[Tolleranza per l'intollerante? L'Occidente e l'Islam](#), Editrice Clinamen, 2015, co-authored

Network

Manuela is a member of [Sandbox](#), a global network of young entrepreneurs with the goal of connecting and empowering young leaders with inspiring visions for the future