



# Coronavirus course goes viral as global concern rises

Free learning website attracts 100,000 learners in one day as worldwide concern over the spread and threat of the coronavirus grows

**Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> Galway, Ireland:** A free online course titled “Coronavirus - What You Need To Know” went viral yesterday as concern grows over the potential worldwide impact of the coronavirus. Originating in Wuhan, China in late December 2019, the virus has now infected over 17,489 people and is responsible for 362 deaths worldwide. It has now spread to 27 countries. A newly identified strain of flu, it is proving to be much more deadly than the common flu with a mortality rate of 2%.

The free certificate course is unique as Alison is committed to translating the course into 100 languages worldwide and updating the course regularly, on the basis of daily WHO situation reports, as the impact of the coronavirus continues to evolve.

Speaking of the course release, Alison CEO & Founder Mike Feerick said, “Free learning platforms like Alison have a unique capability of distributing information, with immediate access to tens of millions of people worldwide who are already familiar with learning quickly online, either via desktop or their mobile. Offering certificates is one way to make sure people taking the course are learning what they need to know.”

The course covers the essential aspects of the coronavirus. It contains important information on the virus’ origins, its transmission, and what you need to be aware of if the region you are in becomes infected. It also details how to protect yourself and others from getting sick, and guidelines for international travel.

For further information, contact Nikki Kelly, Alison Media Team at [nkelly@alison.com](mailto:nkelly@alison.com). You can find the course here: [Coronavirus - What You Need To Know](#).

## **About Alison:**

*Alison is one of the largest free learning platforms globally with 14 million registered learners and 2.5 million graduates. Based in Galway, Ireland, Alison has learners and graduates in every country worldwide. Alison provides 1400+ free online courses, primarily for workforce training. Alison has been recognised as the first MOOC (Massive*



*Open Online Courses) provider, pioneering a movement that is revolutionising global access to online learning around the world.*