

Drupal Site Building and Content Management Essentials

Content structure, taxonomy, display and access management

FA-0605 · 1-day core course; 2-day option with extended configuration and theming

Software Development · DevOps, Cloud & Infrastructure

Configure content types, taxonomy and basic displays in a prepared Drupal site, with an optional second day for theming and administration.

Introduction

This introductory course teaches Drupal site-building and content-management fundamentals using a prepared, supported Drupal environment. The one-day core covers navigation, content types, fields, taxonomy and basic Views/blocks. The two-day option adds theme configuration, a selected CSS/template example, access management and maintenance.

Drupal is both an underlying framework and a content-management platform; the newer ready-to-use Drupal CMS product builds on Drupal core and may provide a different configured experience. The course does not promise every product feature or advanced integration in one day. Installation, module and theme choices follow the selected release's requirements.

Learning outcomes

The course teaches participants to:

- Explain Drupal content, structure, theme and user-management concepts.
- Create and edit a selected content type and its fields.
- Organise sample content with taxonomy and reference fields.
- Build a basic View and place a selected block.

- Review user permissions and content-workflow requirements.
- In the extended option, practise a bounded theme customisation and plan maintenance/backup tasks.

Prerequisites

- Basic knowledge of web development (HTML, CSS).
- Familiarity with using web-based applications.
- An understanding of basic content management principles.

Use a prepared local or authorised training site; administrative tasks require suitable permissions.

Training outline

1. Core Day 1 — Site Setup and Content Structure

Drupal and the learning environment

- Overview of Drupal as a CMS
- What is a Content Management System?
- Drupal capabilities and trade-offs for the selected release and configuration.
- Use Cases and Examples of Drupal Sites

Distinguish Drupal core from the ready-to-use Drupal CMS product; compare the selected site's installed capabilities.

- Review local or authorised training-server installation paths and requirements.
- System Requirements and Preparation
- Step-by-Step Installation Guide
- Initial Configuration and Setup

Use a supported Composer-managed project or prepared environment; installation is guided or demonstrated rather than assumed to work on every host.

Interface and initial roles

- Navigating the Admin Dashboard
- Overview of the Admin Toolbar
- Key Sections: Content, Structure, Appearance, Extend, Configuration, People, Reports

Managing User Accounts and Roles

- Creating and Managing User Accounts
- Configuring User Roles and Permissions

Content types, fields and content items

- Creating and Managing Content Types
- Understanding Content Types and Their Importance
- Creating Custom Content Types
- Configuring Fields and Display Settings

Using Nodes to Manage Content

- What are Nodes?
- Creating and Editing Nodes
- Organise related content using appropriate entity/content reference fields.

Taxonomy and display

- Introduction to Taxonomy in Drupal
- What is Taxonomy and Why is it Important?
- Creating and Managing Vocabularies
- Adding and Organizing Terms
- Using Taxonomy for Content Categorization
- Assigning Taxonomy Terms to Content
- Filtering and Displaying Content by Taxonomy

Customizing Content Display

- Introduction to Views
- What are Views and Their Importance?
- Creating Basic Views
- Configuring Filters, Sort Criteria, and Display Formats

Customizing Content with Blocks

- Understanding Blocks and Regions

- Creating and Managing Custom Blocks
- Placing Blocks in Different Regions

Complete a small sample content structure, vocabulary, View and block.

2. Extended Day 2 — Theming, Access and Maintenance

Themes and a small customisation

- Overview of Drupal Themes
- What are Themes and Their Role in Drupal?
- Installing and Activating Themes
- Configuring Theme Settings

Basic Theme Customization

- Customizing Site Appearance with CSS
- A guided overview of template overrides for the selected theme, using Twig where applicable.
- Using Theme Regions to Organize Content

Access management

- Managing User Roles and Permissions
- Understanding the Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) System
- Creating and Configuring Custom Roles
- Assigning Permissions to Control Access
- Implementing Access Control for Content
- Review access behaviours using test roles; visibility depends on the site's permissions and modules.
- Evaluate compatible access-control modules and their limitations rather than assume extra modules ensure security.

Content quality and workflows

- Maintaining Content Quality and Consistency
- Establishing Content Guidelines and Standards
- Using Workflow Modules for Content Approval

Maintenance planning

- Updating Drupal Core and Modules
- Backing Up Content and Configurations
- Monitoring Site Performance and Security

Back up files, database and configuration as appropriate; test updates and recovery in a non-production environment.

Optional demonstrations

- Multilingual Content Management
- Enabling and Configuring Multilingual Support
- Translating Content and Interface
- Integrating with External Services
- Connecting to APIs and External Data Sources
- Using Modules for Enhanced Functionality

Multilingual configuration and external APIs are selected demonstrations or follow-up topics, not promised full implementations.