

SETTING UP STUDENTS, USING AUDIO, FORUMS, MODIFYING THE UI, AND NEWS FEEDS

DRUPAL PART III
SPRING 2011

Practice #1

1. Give the following permissions to the student role:
 - > post comments without approval
 - > upload files
 - > view uploaded files
 - > access user profiles
2. Create two student accounts called **jimmy**, and **helen**. Give them whatever password you want.
3. Assign to the **student** role the following permissions:
 - > **create blog_post content**
 - > **delete own blog_post content**
 - > **edit own blog_post content**

Practice #2

1. Clone the view called **Teacher blog** and set the following values:
 - a. View name: **student_blog**
 - b. View description: **All posts to be displayed in the Student blog**
 - c. View tag: **student**
2. Change the following filter (Defaults section):
 - a. User: **Role (student)**
3. In the Defaults section, use the following **styles** :
 - a. Title: **Student blog**
4. In the Page section, use the following **styles** :
 - a. Path: **student-blog**
 - b. Menu: **Normal menu entry**
 - c. Title: **Student blog**
 - d. Header: **Hello! you are viewing posts from the student blog. Enjoy your reading, and commenting frequently.**

USING BACKLINKS VIEW

- ◎ You may want to see who is discussing what posts; this is referred to as a backlink.
- ◎ Once that we set up this view, you need to enable the block that will display any backlink when we are looking at the desired content.
- ◎ Follow these steps:
 1. Click the **Administer** -> **Site Building**-> **Views** link. You see the list of the views that you created, and the ones that came with Drupal.
 2. Click the **Enable** link for the backlinks view.
 3. Click the **Clone** the backlinks view.
 4. Rename the cloned copy of the view and give it a new name and description.
 5. Make all other desired changes to the clone.
 6. Click the **Save** button.
 7. Click the **Administer** -> **Site Building**-> **Blocks** link. You see the list of the views that you created, and the ones that came with Drupal.
 8. Using the combo box, select the location where the block display will appear.
 9. Click the **Save blocks** button.

SETTING UP CRON JOBS

- ◎ The cron jobs are used to schedule and perform various tasks on your site, such as building the search index for your site.
- ◎ Follow these steps:
 1. Click the **Administer -> Site Building-> Modules** link. You see the list of the modules that Drupal can use.
 2. Click the **Enable** link for the **Poormanscron (Other section)**.
 3. Click the **Save configuration** button (This assumes that you have previously downloaded and installed this module).
 4. Click the **Administer -> Site Configuration-> Poormanscron** link. You see the list of the views that you created, and the ones that came with Drupal.
 5. Educational sites should set cron run intervals to at least **120** minutes, the retry interval at **20** minutes, and both log options set to **Yes**.
 6. Click the **Save configuration** button.

Practice #3

1. Clone the view called **Default Node view: backlinks** and set the following values:
 - a. View name: **conversations**
 - b. View description: **Cloned from default "backlinks" view; displays a list of nodes that link to the node, using the search backlinks table**
 - c. View tag:
2. Add the fields called **Node: Post Date**, **Node: Type**, and **User: Name** for the view you created.
3. Edit the Argument as follows: put a checkmark on **Blog post**, **Bookmark**, and **Validate user has access to the node** checkboxes.
4. Remove the **Page Display** (click the Remove display button once you select the page display)
5. In the **Block display** change the following settings:
 - > Items per page: **10**
 - > More link: **No**
 - > Admin: **conversations**
- ⦿ Disable the **backlinks** view and enable **conversations** block on the **right sidebar**.

Practice #4

1. Login as **helen** and make the first post in the student blog with the following information
 - a. Post Title: **Helen's first awesome post**
 - b. Post body: **This is my first post. Yes it is.**
 - c. Keywords: **awesome, jaw-dropping**
2. Make the second post in the student blog with the following information
 - a. Post Title: **Helen's second awesome post**
 - b. Post body: **This post will show how to connect with another post. Click here to go to my first post.** Make the word here a hyperlink to the first post.
 - c. Keywords: **awesome, jaw-dropping, connecting, another post**
3. Login as **jimmy** and make the first post in the student blog with the following information
 - a. Post Title: **Some great ideas; have you also considered...**
 - b. Post body: **As I read helen's post, I could not help but be reminded of a book I read over the summer...**Make the phrase **helen's post** a hyperlink to helen's first post.
 - c. Keywords: **book, helen's first post.**
4. Run the cronjob by typing this in your url
`http://yourdomain.org/cron.php`

Practice #6

1. Create a Bookmark. Set the values as follows:
 - > Title: **Some general advice on reading Moby Dick**
 - > Body: **This site gives very general instructions to readers starting Moby Dick.**
 - > Keywords: **Moby Dick, Reading Moby Dick, evaluating bookmarks**
 - > Link: **<http://www.pthompson.addr.com/moby/advice.htm>**
2. Log in as a teacher and create an Assignment. Set the values as follows:
 - > Title: **Media Literacy: Evaluating Sources**
 - > Body:
 - **Read the resource that has been stored here.** Make here a link to the URL that has the Bookmark created in the previous step.
 - **1. What elements of this site help create the impression that the author is a reliable source of information?**
 - **2. What elements of this site detract from the author's reliability?**
 - **Create a blog post where you respond to these questions. Tag your blog post with the keyword “evaluating bookmarks”.**
 - > Type of Assignment: **evaluating bookmarks, Moby Dick**
 - > Due Date: **04-28-09 5:30pm**

INSTALLING AND ENABLING AUDIO MODULES

- Before you start, you need to get the following modules from Drupal:
 - getID3 (which requires an extra getID3 libraries obtained at <http://getid3.sourceforge.net>)
 - Token
 - Audio
- Then you need to enable the following
 - getID3
 - Token
 - Audio
 - AudiogetID3

CONFIGURING AUDIO SETTINGS

- In **Administer-> Site Configuration-> Audio settings (Audio section)**:
 - You may want to blank out if you are not working with songs. Everything else can remain as is.
 - The default value for **Default node title format** is **[audio-tag-title-raw] by [audio-tag-artist-raw]**
- In the **metadata tags** section, make sure that only the following are checked: **artist-written to file**, **title-written to file**, and **year-written to file**.
 - This will greatly simplify the podcast upload form.

ASSIGN RIGHTS TO THE AUDIO MODULE

- You need to assign audio permissions to your different roles
- Remember, go to Administer ->User Management ->Permissions.
- Set the necessary permissions
- Click the **save permissions** button

PRACTICE

1. Set the following audio permissions
 - Teacher: create audio, edit own audio, view download stats
 - Student: create audio, edit own audio
 - Authenticated/anonymous user: download audio, play audio
2. Edit the **teacher_blog** and **student_blog** views. For their filters in **node:type** include audio as well.
3. Edit the **conversations** view. In arguments click **search:links to** and include audio as well.

INSTALLING AND ENABLING IMAGE MODULE

- Before you start, you need to get the image module from Drupal:
- Then you need to enable the following
 - Image
 - Image Gallery
- In **Administer-> Content Management> Content Type** settings for the Image type:
 - Workflow settings: set images to be published and disable attachments

USING TAXONOMY AND CREATING GALLERIES

- It is advisable to assign a taxonomy to the image content type as well. We can use the same taxonomy that was used for similar content types (e.g. Keywords)
- Now, to create image galleries go to **Administer-> Content Management -> Image galleries**. There are several attributes that can be set:
 - Name and description (self-explanatory)
 - Parent: allows to create nested galleries
 - Weight: used to order galleries, lowest numbers appearing first.
- Assign permissions to roles regarding images and image galleries.
 - Student/Teacher: create/edit own images (Teacher can also administer gallery images)
 - Site admin: all
 - Authenticated user: view original images

ADJUSTING ANY NECESSARY VIEWS

- Similarly as views were adjusted after adding an audio content type, they may also need to be adjusted after the addition of the image content type too.
- Refer to slide # 12, but use the image type instead of audio.

FORUMS

- If you want to a place in which students can ask questions and they can be organized around specific topics, forums can provide context and structure.
- The forum module needs to be enabled (already comes with Drupal) and then configured (**Administer -> By module tab**)

CONTAINERS AND FORUMS

- When configuring forums, we can organize our forums using top-level containers and individual forums.
- Forums don't need to be in containers.
- If you have more than one forum, a container is useful to organize your forums.
- It is recommended that you start as simple as possible

CONFIGURE FORUMS

- Click **Forums**.
- To add a container, click the **Add container** link.
- To add a forum, click the **Add forum** link
- You can change settings if you wish, though the default values for topic per page and default order are generally good.

PRACTICE

1. Create a container with the following attributes
 - **Name:** Week 1: Computer Concepts Discussion
 - **Description:** Computer concepts discussion topics are in here for discussion.

2. Create a forum with the following attributes
 - **Name:** Discussion about the Computer Throughput process
 - **Description:** In here, I want to hear your thoughts about ways of improving the performance of the computer throughput process (input-processing-output).
 - **Parent:** Week 1: Computer Concepts Discussion

DISPLAYING MULTIPLE CONTENT TYPES IN A FORUM

- Forums are organized using a taxonomy.
- When the forum module is enabled, a new forums vocabulary is created.
- This vocabulary can be edited.
- Use with caution. If forums are the main vehicle for organizing communication, then it is useful or you are managing a single class.
- However, if your site is using multiple avenues (e.g. forums, blogs, etc.) Drupal warns that it could become confusing for users.

ASSIGN PERMISSIONS TO FORUMS

- There are six different permission. Of these, the **create forum topics** must be granted to all site users.
- The **edit own forum topics** permission may be assigned too.
- However, if a user edits their own post, the context of the comment could change affecting the context of the rest of the discussion.
- The **edit any forum topic** and both the **delete** privileges should only be assigned to very trusted users.

CUSTOMIZE YOUR SITE'S LOOK AND FEEL

- The two basic principles are
 - **Make things as simple as possible by hiding unnecessary options**
- We will focus on three things
 - Setting the Home Page
 - Menus, Blocks, and Primary Links
 - Changing Settings via the Admin Menu

SETTING THE HOME PAGE

- To create a home page, follow these steps:
 1. Click **Create Content->Page**.
 2. Add the content and save it.
 3. Obtain the URL address.
 4. Click **Administer-> Site Configuration -> Site Information** link.
 5. Make the necessary changes and set it to the URL address from step 3.

CREATE A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION MENU

- By default, all navigation options (administrative and otherwise) are put together which can be confusing to users.
- Thus, we will create a separate admin menu
- We will do the following:
 - Add new menus
 - Enable the block associated with the menu
 - Fine tune the block settings (including its name and visibility)

ADD THE ADMIN MENU

1. Click the Administer -> Site Building -> Menus link
2. Click the Add Menu tab.
3. Enter the
 - menu name: site-administration
 - Title: Site Administration
 - Description: This menu contains all the links to administer your site. By separating these links into a separate menu, you create a site that is easier to use.
4. Click Save

ENABLING THE BLOCK

1. Click the Administer -> Site Building -> Blocks link
2. Enable the **Site Administration** block, by dragging it to the left side bar region.
3. Click Save Block

ADDING ITEMS TO THE MENU

1. Click the Administer -> Site Building -> Menus link
2. Click the Navigation link.
3. Click the edit link for the **Administer** menu.
4. Set the Parent to the <site administration> option we created before.
5. Click Save

PRACTICE

1. Create a new menu.
 - **Name:** add-content
 - **Title:** Add New Content
 - **Description:** This menu contains links for adding content. It replaces the default "Add Content" menu
2. Create a new menu.
 - **Name:** holding-tank
 - **Title:** Holding Tank
 - **Description:** This menu is a storage tool for links we do not need or want to use.
3. Enable the **Add New Content** Block on the left side-bar.
4. Move the **create content** menu into the holding tank block (make holding tank its parent)
5. Move the items under **create content** to **Add New Content** (new parent).

DISPLAY FORUMS IN YOUR SITE

1. A convenient way of doing it is to create a block to display your desired forums.
2. Next, fill the block description, block title, and in the block body section, you will type a bit of HTML code for the links to your container, forum or topic.
 - E.g. `Week 1: Computer Concepts Discussion`
3. Save the block.
4. Assign the block to the desired region on the screen

PRACTICE

1. Create a new block and it needs to be assigned to the right area .
 - Block description: Current Week's Discussion
 - Block Title : Current Week's Discussion
 - Block Body: `LI>Week 1: Computer Concepts Discussion`
2. Replace the question mark “?” with the value or page name that links to the container.
3. Save your block

CREATING HOME PAGE LINK AND A LINK TO AN EXTERNAL WEBSITE

1. Go to the home page by clicking the drupal logo.
2. Click **Edit**.
3. Enter **Home** as the menu link title.
4. Click **Save**
5. Go to Menus (Adminster...) and click **Primary Links**.
6. Click **Add item** and proceed to fill out the required info.
7. Click **Save**

PRACTICE

1. Create a primary link to the Assignment calendar.
 - **Path:** <http://localhost/drupal/assignment-calendar>
 - **Menu Link Title:** Assignment Calendar
 - **Description:** Link to the Assignment calendar
2. Create a primary link to the Assignment calendar.
 - **Path:** <http://drupal.org>
 - **Menu Link Title:** Drupal
 - **Description:** Link to the Drupal site.

THEME SETTINGS

- There are several options that may be changed and they are grouped into 4 sections:
 - Toggle Display: turns on/off the display of certain info.
 - Logo Image/Shortcut icon: allows customization of the logo displayed on all site pages and the favicon displayed in the browser address bar and favorites.
 - Display post information on: not all your content needs to display post information. You can select which content does.
- You can click on the specific theme (e.g. Garland) and further customize it to suit your tastes.

NEWS FEEDS

- The aggregator module needs to be enabled to use RSS feeds.
- Go to Administer->Content Management->Feed aggregator
- Click Add Feed. You need to go to the Internet and find the URL for the desired feed
 - e.g. http://rss.cnn.com/rss/cnn_tech.rss for CNN technology news
- Set the update interval and save.
- Update the feed and then enable a block to display the feeds.