

SI 634 Content Management Systems Configuration and Site Building

This 1.5-credit course will introduce students to the concepts behind Content Management Platforms. You will be able to install and configure some open-source Content management by the end of this course. You will also learn where and how to seek help. Finally, you will learn how to extend most application platforms by using modules and plugins.

This course is a pre-requisite for SI 631, the CMS projects course. Some students may choose to take this course and not take SI 631. This course is a pre/co-requisite for Application Platform Customization course (SI 635).

Objectives

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Build a functional complex site using Drupal.
- Be able to recognize what application platforms are and the common elements between them.
- Evaluate how and where to find the features of each application platform and match them to your project's needs.
- Evaluate third party plug-ins and modules for each different application platform.
- Know the implications of using GPL software.
- Install and configure three different application platforms.
- Find and use the tools to transfer files between Linux hosts and local computers.

Instructor

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Office Hours

We will have group office hours and toward the end of class, you can book individual office hours at umsi.info/mlh

Pre-requisites

None

Meeting Schedule

This course meets on Wednesday's from 9:00-10:30pm, in 2255NQ

Teaching Approach

Each session will consist of a mix of lecture and lab time/small group work. Also, I will provide links to existing resources, such as tutorials, documentation, and online communities that are able to assist with questions. In the last few weeks, we will vote on topics to cover in class.

Assignments

There is a hands-on homework assignment associated with each week's material. Generally, this will involve installing a new piece of software and/or configuring some of its features. It is due the following week 10 minutes before class starts.

Textbook

No formal textbook. There will be readings from select sources; these will be provided in electronic format.

Homework

Some of the homework assignments can be complex. Some weeks may require the full 4.5 hours (this is a 1.5-credit class) of outside class time. Please keep this in mind.

Final Project

For this class, you will build a functional website in Drupal. More details about this project will be given around week 5-6. This project is 25% of your grade; please allocate enough time for it. This is not something that can be tossed together at the last minute.

Grading

Grades will be determined on the basis of student performance on homework assignments and a final project. The overall breakdown is below. Homework is graded on a 0-10 scale. As this is a hands-on class, attendance and participation in class are important.

Item	Weight
Homework	50%
Class participation	25%
Final project	25%

Course Outline:

- Intro to Drupal

- Views
- Modules and modules and more modules
- Panels and views
- Advanced Drupal
- In-class projects
- Other platforms
- Final projects

Course Readings

There will be some readings that are required. I will provide access to the materials in a method that does not require you to purchase the books or a course pack.

Academic Integrity Policy

UM and SI academic integrity policies apply to this course. All submitted work must be your own (or your team's work, for group assignments). *Any excerpts from the works written by others must be clearly identified as a quotation, and a proper citation provided.* You are free and encouraged to use software modules or styling themes contributed by others; you must acknowledge the source of any such modules you use. Any violation of the School's policy on Academic and Professional Integrity (stated in the Master's and Doctoral Student Handbooks) will result in severe penalties, which might range from failing an assignment, to failing a course, to being expelled from the program, at the discretion of the instructor and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you think you need an accommodation for a disability, please let us know at your earliest convenience. Some aspects of this course, the assignments, the in-class activities, and the way we teach may be modified to facilitate your participation and progress. As soon as you make us aware of your needs, we can work with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) to help us determine appropriate accommodations. SSD (734-763-3000; <http://www.umich.edu/sswd>) typically recommends accommodations through a Verified Individualized Services and Accommodations (VISA) form. I will treat any information you provide as private and confidential.

Course Policy in Case of Significant Flu Outbreak

If you are suffering from flu-like symptoms, please stay at home until you are fever-free for 24 hours. Email the instructor about any questions you have, or to make alternative arrangements.