



PHP 101a: Introductory PHP & MySQL

PHP is the most popular Server Scripting language. It is used to drive many of the largest web sites in the world, and is used to produce dynamic web sites, often driven by a database such as MySQL

MySQL is the most popular open source database, though by no means the only one. It is also behind many of the largest content-based web sites in the world.

This course covers the basic techniques of writing scripts in PHP. It uses modern, best practices, and encourages readable and maintainable code. It also covers the basics of working with a database. Although MySQL is used throughout the course, the material will allow you to easily switch to any of the other popular databases such as PostGreSQL and SQLite.

The PHP techniques covered include:

- Writing Scripts
- Including Files
- Processing Form Data
- Data Calculations
- Working with Images
- Working with Database
- File Handling
- Security

At all times, the student is encouraged to follow good design and writing principles, and the examples and exercises are clear and written in a way to facilitate further development.

Throughout the book are summary sections which explain key PHP concepts, and can be used later as a reference.

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Course Outline

Module 1: Preparing Files

- Renaming the Files
- Using PHP to Print Processed Data
- Including Files
- A Template File

Module 2: Forms

- Simple Form Processing
- Re-Entrant Form Processing

Module 3: Uploading Files

- The Upload Form
- Settings
- Processing POSTed Data
- Checking the Uploaded File
- Checking the File Type
- Handling the Error
- Persisting Fields
- Keeping the File

Module 4: Library and Configuration Files

- Configuration File
- Function Library
- Classes and Objects as Containers of Functions & Data

Module 5: Database

- Database Concepts
- Preparing the Database
- Users
- Tables
- SQL
- Important Clauses
- SQL Functions
- PHP
- Using the PDO Object

Module 6: Adding Images

- Preparing the Images Table
- Including the Database Connection
- Adding Image Data to the Table

Module 7: File Handling

- Preparation
- Reading Text Files
- Splitting the Data
- Processing the Data
- Copying the Image File
- Reading a Directory

Module 8: The Image Gallery

- The Image Gallery
- Outlining the Code
- Preparing the Page
- Gallery Page Data
- Selecting Multiple Image Records
- Constructing the img Elements
- Displaying Page Information
- Paging
- The Paging Buttons
- Displaying a Thumbnail
- Using Cookies to Remember the Page
- Displaying a Random Image