



HIT 346 – Web Content Management Systems – Fall 2017

Instructor Tim Krause, tkrause@uwsp.edu
<http://www.timkrause.info>
Office B231, Science Building, 715-346-3851 (Skype: tgkrause)
Office Hours MW 1:30-2:30 p.m. and by appointment

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to the principles of open source web content management systems (CMS), with an emphasis on Drupal, Joomla and WordPress.

Objectives

- Gain an understanding of the basic features of the various types of open source web content management systems.
- Establish selection criteria and apply them analytically to selecting a CMS.
- Develop proficiency in installing and configuring a CMS, including Drupal, Joomla and WordPress.
- Extend CMS functionality using components, modules and plug-ins.
- Deploy advanced CMS functionality, including community building, ecommerce, image galleries, and forums.

Required Materials and Texts

There are no required texts for this course. A variety of online resources will be both suggested and assigned. If you prefer having textbooks, I recommend the following three:

Beck, Matt and Jessica Neuman Beck. *WordPress: Visual QuickStart Guide (2nd Ed.)*. Peachpit Press. ISBN: 978-0321792662. Est. Amazon cost: \$18.13 (paper), \$1.92 (starting, used)

Geller, Tom. *Drupal 7: Visual QuickStart Guide*. Peachpit Press. ISBN: 978-0321619211. Est. Amazon cost: \$20.96 (paper), \$13.49 (Kindle), \$5.30 (starting, used)

Tiggeler, Eric. *Joomla! 3 Beginner's Guide*. Packt Publishing. ISBN: 978-1782164340. Est. Amazon cost: \$44.99 (paper), \$18.49 (Kindle), \$41.89 (starting, used)

Computer Requirements

There is no special software required for this course. You should have regular access to a laptop or desktop

Hosting

A CMS requires a server to run. We will learn about servers as part of this course, at least to the extent you need that knowledge to run a CMS. Server space will be made available to you at no cost for the duration of the course.

Assignments and Projects

Assignments will be posted on D2L. It is your responsibility to check D2L for any homework assignments and supporting material.

As appropriate, assignments will be turned into D2L. Exceptions will be described in advance on D2L. For each assignment, you will write a 1-2 paragraph retrospective. It will be turned in to D2L as well. Describe:

- What did you do?
- What worked well?
- What didn't work well?
- What will you do differently in the future?

Missing or incomplete retrospectives will each result in losing ½ letter grade on your grade for that particular assignment.

I recommend that you start working on assignments as soon as possible after they have been announced. Web projects almost always take longer than originally anticipated; starting early greatly increases your odds of completing the project to your satisfaction. Please call, email or see the instructor as soon as possible, and **before the due date**, with any questions or concerns about an assignment.

We will complete the following assignments, projects and quizzes this semester:

CMS Evaluation Matrix	100	Quizzes	200
WordPress (Hosted)	50	WordPress Blog	100
WordPress (Installed)	50	Final Project	200
Joomla! (Installed)	100	Miscellaneous*	100
Drupal/Plone (Installed)	100	Total	1,000

*Includes active discussion on D2L

Due Date & Late Policy

Unless otherwise noted, assignments are due at 8:00 p.m. on the due date. Late assignments will be reduced by one letter grade per weekday that they are late.

Attendance Policy

Summer is an intense but rewarding experience. Online courses require additional attention and discipline for you to be successful. You are expected to be a regular, active and constructive participant through D2L's discussion board, your blog and other mechanisms.

Grading Scale

Final grades will be determined according to the following scale:

		A	100 – 95%	A-	94 – 93%
B+	92 – 90%	B	89 – 88%	B-	87 – 86%
C+	85 – 83%	C	82 – 80%	C-	79 – 78%
D+	77 – 75%	D	74 – 72%	F	< 71%

I reserve the right to lower the grading scale (i.e. the course may require less than 95% to earn an A).

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. If you have any questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, ask me or consult your university handbook. A description of your rights and responsibilities as a member of the UW-SP community can be found at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/>

Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures (UWS/UWSP Chapter 14) are available at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChap14.pdf>

File Storage

Whenever possible, save your work often, and make regular backups of your files. UWSP Information Technology cannot restore individual files, nor can they restore individual files should your UWSP account become inactive. Extensions on assignments **will not be given** on assignments which are late due to lost or damaged files.

Course Schedule

1. Introduction to Web Content Management Systems
2. Introduction to hosted WordPress sites
3. WordPress: Building a Site
4. WordPress: Content Creation and Editing
5. Introduction to Semester Project
6. Joomla: Basic Installation and Configuration
7. Joomla: Extending Site Functionality
8. Joomla: Components, Modules and Plugins (Gallery Example)
9. Joomla: Configure: Users, login, Captcha
10. Joomla: Social Networking
11. Joomla: Navigation
12. Joomla: Security
13. Drupal/Plonel: Basic Installation
14. Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and Search Engine Friendly URLs (SEF)
15. Ecommerce
16. Community, Forums, Podcasting
17. Mobile and Responsive Design
18. Selecting a CMS
19. Selecting a CMS Host

Final Exam

There is no final exam for this course.