Drupal for Beginners

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What is Drupal?

Content Management System (CMS)

Web Application Framework

Modular

Keeps design and content separate

Open source (and therefore free)

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Today's objectives

De-mystify some jargon and increase general digital literacy

Install Drupal 7 (Drupal 8 has been out for six months and is production ready, but it's less popular)

Customise Drupal to function as a simple blog

Have enough knowledge to speak tourist-level Drupalese with your IT department

Have some next steps to follow if you want to learn more

Opportunity to ask questions

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A brief (and highly selective) history of the internet

Very early 1990s: Tim Berners-Lee has a web server running at CERN. Only HTML, so websites are "one-way", like a research library

Mid-1990s: Berners-Lee's colleague Håkon Wium Lie develops CSS, which make it easier to make websites look good

Late-1990s: Rasmus Lerdorf's PHP starts to get popular so websites can be interactive to the point where they look a lot like regular applications

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Drupal's origins and early development

In 2000 Dries Buytaert, then an undergraduate at the University of Antwerp, writes a web forum application

Buytaert makes this application open source in 2001, and it starts to evolve

Used in 2003 to build the website of Democratic US Presidential Candidate Howard Dean

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Drupal's later development

First "modern" Drupal release, 4.7, in 2006

Obama Administration adopts Drupal for the official White House website in 2008

Now used by millions of websites worldwide, including thisamericanlife.org, Major League Soccer, and many universities, including the University of Edinburgh

Interesting digital humanities applications, like Islandora

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Why use Drupal?

It's being adopted by Edinburgh University, in the form of EdWeb (Google "edweb distribution")

Prevent wheel reinvention

Maintain consistency

Modular

Free and open source

Secure

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What does Drupal need in order to run?

The LAMP stack:

Linux

Apache

MySQL

PHP

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The hands-on bit

Run XAMPP like you would any other application

Start Apache

Start MySQL

Open your usual web browser, and in the address bar type "http://localhost"

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Download Drupal 7

In that same web browser, go to drupal.org

Click "Get Started with Drupal"

Click "Download Drupal 7.xx"

Scroll down until you see "7.xx" on a green background. Right click on "zip" link and click "Save Link As..."

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Install Drupal 7

Go to your unzipped "DD116Drupal" folder

Move the "drupal7core" folder to your web server (C:\XAMPP\htdocs\ or /Applications/xampp/xamppfiles/htdocs

Change the name of the folder to "drupal"

Open your web browser and go to "http://localhost/drupal"

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Create a MySQL database

Open up your browser and go to "http://localhost/phpmyadmin"

Click the "Databases" tab

Under "Create database", type "drupal"

Click "Create"

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Run the Drupal installer

In your browser, go to "http://localhost/drupal"

Click "Save and Continue" for the first couple of pages

Enter "drupal" for the name of your database. The username is "root", but keep the password blank. Click "Save and Continue"

Fill in the site information, and click "Save and Continue"

Visit your new website!

Click "Add new content"

Click "Article"

Give your article a "Title" and a "Body", and hit "Save"

Click "Home"

Repeat steps 1-4

Installing a theme

Go to your unzipped "DD116Drupal" folder

Find the "responsive" folder, and move it to the "sites/all/themes" folder in your "drupal" folder

Enabling a theme

Open your browser, and go back to your Drupal site

Click "Appearance", fourth from left in menu at top of the screen

Scroll down until you find "Premium Responsive"; click "Enable and set default"

Close the overlay

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Create a content type

Click "Structure" in the top menu

Click "Content types" in the overlay

Click "Add content type"

Fill in "Name" as "Blog post"

Click "Save content type"

Close the overlay

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Add some content

Just like before!

(But you're adding blog posts rather than articles)

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Installing a module

The Views module allows you to create custom lists ("views") of content

Go to your unzipped "DD116Drupal" folder

Find the "views" folder, and move it to the "sites/all/modules" folder in your "drupal" folder

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Enabling a module

Open up your browser and go to your Drupal site

Click "Modules" in the menu at the top of the page

Scroll right down to the bottom, "Views" and "Views UI"

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Module dependencies

Repeat what you did with the "views" folder, but using the "ctools" folder:

Go to your unzipped "DD116Drupal" folder

Find the "ctools" folder, and move it to the "sites/all/modules" folder in your "drupal" folder

Go back to where you were in your browser, refresh the page, and enable Views and Views UI

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Building a view 1

Click "Structure" in the top menu

Click "Views" in the overlay

Click "Add new view"

Fill in "View name" as "Blog posts"

Tick "Create a menu link" and under "Menu" select "Navigation"

Click "Continue & edit"

Building a view 2

Click "Save" to save your view properly

Click "Add" next to "FILTER CRITERIA", to add a new filter

Scroll down to "Content: Type", and tick it

Click "Apply (all displays)"

Tick "Blog post" & click "Apply (all displays)"

Click "Save" & then close the overlay

Click the new "Blog posts" link to see your new view

Adding a field to a content type

Click "Structure" in the top menu, then "Content types" in the overlay

Click the "manage fields" link next to "Blog post"

Under "Add new field" enter "Blog image" as the Label, and select "Image" as the Field Type

Click "Save", and then "Save field settings"

Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Save settings", and then close the overlay

Adding an image to your blog posts

Click "Blog posts" in the Navigation menu on the right

Click on one of your blog posts

Click the "Edit" tab

Scroll down to "Blog image", and then click "Choose file"

Select your file, click "Open", and then click "Upload"

Scroll down and click "Save"

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What next?

Drupal community

    drupal.org/support

    Forums, IRC

Drupal Answers: drupal.stackexchange.com

simplytest.me

Apress books

    "Beginning Drupal 7" (2010)

    "Pro Drupal 7 Development" (2010)

Codecademy: codecademy.com