

Website Conception with Drupal 6

Theming with Drupal

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Plan of the cours

18h00-18h30 – Views (continuation)

18h30-19h00 – Themeing with Drupal

19h00-19h30 – Hands-On (changing a theme)

19h30-19h45 – Break

19h45-20h15 – Hands-On (changing a theme)

20h30-21h00 – Basic CSS

Website design

The aim of the site is to make it as simple as possible, without hiding important information:

- The triple rule: 3 lines or colomnes (a look that attracts the eye)
- The visual center rule (the attraction point is situated at to the above and right side of the real center of a page)
- <http://www.alistapart.com> (graphic conception articles)

Functionalities, content and design are separated with Drupal. Themes takes care of the website design.

- Control the look of your Drupal site
- Personal and original look
- Control the regions and blocks

Themes anatomy

- File or a number of files defining or controlling the webpage functionalities to include in the presentation of elements, and using PHP and HTML, CSS style sheets and images.
- Drupal works with PHPtemplate engine
- *.tpl.php* files – to modify the Drupal appearance
 - modules/comment/commnet.tpl.php
 - modules/system/page.tpl.php
- *.info* file – to check the info of the theme
- *.css* files – to make changes in the design

Finding a theme

- Available theme: Drupal comes with some default themes that can be used by enabling them (Garland, Chameleon, Marvin)
- You can also find and download a free theme from: <http://drupal.org/project/Themes>
- You can try them live at <http://themegarden.org>
- You can also buy a theme (companies selling themes)

Notes: quality and objective of themes varies. Download several to see which one will be a good one for your site.

Also, be sure to read the ***Readme.txt*** files to determine how to best use them. You can also use it as a starting point and customize it further on to make it in your own taste.

Theme configuration

- **Enable a theme** (one or many) – allows users with « select different theme » to be able to choose from the enabled ones and change the theme (rare)
- **Default** – defines the theme that will be seen by all users of the site
- Save the configuration
- « select different theme » is good in times of creation and maintenance.
- You can enable 2-3 themes, and switch between them to see if the problems you encounter and design (theme) related or other.

Global settings

- Select the « global settings » tab from `/admin/build/themes/settings`.
- For per-theme basis, select « configure » next to « enable » and « default »
- On the « settings » page, you can enable or disable the display of certain elements (toggle display)
- You can also change the logo and the shortcyc icon (favicon)

Hands-On: Personalising your website

- 1) `admin/build/themes` (Garland)
- 2) Configure global settings (apply to all themes)
 - add your logo
 - change the favicon (shortcut icon)
- 3) Configure (Garland)
(`admin/build/themes/settings/garland`)
- 4) You can change the colour of your site

Hands-On: Theme installation

(similar to installing modules)

- Create a folder in `/sites/all/` called *themes*
- Download the theme's `.tar.gz` file from its project page and extract it
- Place the theme into `sites/all/themes` directory
- The new theme appears in `admin/build/themes`
- Make sure the theme is Drupal 6 compatible, otherwise it won't appear in `/admin/build/themes`
- You can modify the presentation of the pages to add a personal touch in the style sheet (optional).

Admin Theme Setting

- No separate design for admin by default but it is a configurable option
- Go to Administration->Site configuration->Administration theme (admin/settings/admin)
- Select a theme for your admin interface.
- Optionally, use the selected theme for content editing.

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)

- A style sheet that contains all the information related to the chosen theme.
- Helps to control and to make fine changes to the look of the website.
- Modifications are made to the HTML code directly
- Structure including: selectors, properties, delimiters, values

```
p.signature {  
    color: green ;  
}
```

(selector = p.signature; property=color; delimiter « : »; value=green)

- Example of the code taken from style.css file:

```
<!-- Layout -->
<div id="header-region" class="clear-block"><?php print $header; ?></div>
<div id="wrapper">
<div id="container" class="clear-block">
<div id="header">
<div id="logo-floater">
<?php
// Prepare header
$site_fields = array();
if ($site_name) {
    $site_fields[] = check_plain($site_name);
}
if ($site_slogan) {
    $site_fields[] = check_plain($site_slogan);
}
$site_title = implode(' ', $site_fields);
if ($site_fields) {
    $site_fields[0] = '<span>'. $site_fields[0] .'</span>';
}
$site_html = implode(' ', $site_fields);
if ($logo || $site_title) {
    print '<h1><a href="'. check_url($front_page) ." title='". $site_title .'>';
    if ($logo) {
        print '';
    }
    print $site_html .'</a></h1>';
}
?>
</div>
```

Personalising your site

- You will need:
 - Firebug: <http://getfirebug.com/> (to visualise the code and the modifications)
 - Gedit: <http://projects.gnome.org/gedit/> (to do the modifications in the .css files)
- Files to explore inside the selected theme:
*block.tpl.php box.tpl.php comment.tpl.php
node.tpl.php template.php*
- Files to modify: `style.css`