

PHP Course Plan

This is a plan of the PHP (P1) course. It is subject to change depending on class size and how fast we proceed through the material!

Session 1

Introduce Course

What is PHP?

PHP Introduction

PHP is a widely-used Open Source general-purpose scripting language that is especially suited for Web development. Server side. Resources – www.php.net

PHP Syntax

HOE 1: Preparing to code with PHP.

- Escaping HTML
- Comments
- Basic Syntax
- Types
- Variables
- Constants

HOE 2: The Fundamentals

Session 2

Moving on with the PHP basics to result in an overall understand of the building blocks of the language.

More PHP Syntax

- ExpressionsXHTML Forms
- Operators

HOE 3: Using Expressions and operators

- Control Structures – if, for, foreach, while, switch...

HOE 4 : Using Control Structures

- Functions

HOE 5: Writing Functions

Session 3

External File Data Handling

Accessing and writing to files on the server.

HOE 6: Managing Files with PHP.

Handling Dates

Handling dates and UNIX timestamps.

HOE 7: Handling dates.

Determining data types, data checking, including:

- Regex Pattern matching
- Regex Pattern replacement
- Pattern match and use of matching data

Analysing and Examining Data

HOE 8: Manipulating string data.

HOE 9: Using regular expressions.

Session 4

Set TMA: the task is to write a PHP script that will dynamically read a set of standard server log files and display a statistical summary.

	Common Inputs. Hidden inputs. Submit/Reset.
HTML Forms	HOE 10: Creating Forms Passing data (GET or POST) – also making use of the query string and hence why it is preferable to POST forms and not use GET to avoid ambiguity.
Accessing and Validating User Data	Accessing form variables with PHP, validation and display. HOE 11: Accessing form variables in PHP.

Session 5

Redisplaying Forms	How to redisplay a completed form if errors have been found. HOE 12: Redisplaying Forms.
PHP Security	Outlining some of the common pitfalls of loose coding that makes for insecure PHP implementations. HOE 13: Breaking in!

Session 6

Maintaining State with PHP	An introduction to the idea of 'state' and how to overcome the stateless HTTP protocol.
Cookies	Using PHP to set and read data from cookies – the first method of maintaining persistent data between web pages. HOE 14: Using Cookies
Sessions	A more convenient method of maintaining data between web pages using PHP Sessions. HOE 15: Persistent data using Sessions

Session 7

Error Handling	An introduction to PHP debugging and error handling. HOE 16: PHP error handling
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Session 8

An introduction to the concept and usage of PHP classes.

Classes

HOE 17: Using Classes

HOE 18: Class inheritance

OOP

The differences between procedural and object orientated coding techniques and its impact on how we code in PHP.

HOE 19: Code recognition

Set FMA: the task is to convert an existing set of static *.htm pages to a PHP based login system, with some pages being secure, and some public.