

Node Modules

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JavaScript Modules

- JavaScript does not define a standard library
- CommonJS API fills this gap by defining APIs for common application needs
 - It defines a module format
 - Node follows the CommonJS module specification

Node Modules

- Each file in Node is its own module
- The *module* variable gives access to the current module definition in a file
- The *module.exports* variable determines the export from the current module
- The *require* function is used to import a module

Node Modules

- File-based Modules
- Core Modules
 - Part of core Node
 - Examples: path, fs, os, util, . . .
- External Node modules
 - Third-party modules
 - Installed using NPM
 - node_modules folder in your Node application

Using Node Modules

- Include them using require function
- File-based modules:
 - `require('./module_name')`
 - Specify the relative path to the file
- Core and External modules:
 - `require('module_name')`
 - Looks for external modules in:
 - `./node_modules`, `../node_modules`, `../../node_modules`, ...
 - Up the folder hierarchy until the module is found