

Nairobi Developer School Android Development Curriculum (Provisional).

By Njoro Kitindi

I've designed this curriculum to address the fundamental knowledge required of a competent Android developer. Here's a guide to the subject areas covered, and some pointers to further applicable reference material.

1. 01/12 Android Ecosystem [History, development and positioning in market]

- Introduction to Android (Platforms)
- Android Releases (G1 to Jellybean)
- Platform Distribution
- Developer Support
- Environment Setup (ADT, SDK)

2. 02/12 App Framework [Measures understanding of the architecture of an Android app, components and interaction]

- Android and Linux
- JVM (Java Virtual Machine)
- Data Passing Mechanisms
- Synchronous/ Asynchronous processing
- ADB (Android Debug Bridge)
- Documentation
- Android Libraries
- Reference

3. 03/12 Tools [key Android tools]

- AVD Manager
- Logging (Logcat)
- DDMS
- Profiling
- Hierarchy Viewer
- ADT Plugin for Eclipse
- SQLite tools

4. 04/12 User Interface [Usage patterns, common design techniques and best practice UI]

- Navigation
- Views
- ViewGroups
- Layouts
- XML/ Programmatic Techniques
- Menus

- Event Listeners
- Lists
- Dialogs

5. 05/12 Application Components [Understanding essential components of an android app]

- Activities
- Broadcast receivers
- Service
- Content Providers
- Threads
- Orientation Changes

6. 06/12 Intents [Data passing process, filtering and Intent handling]

- Component Relationship
- Managing data using Intents
- Explicit vs. Implicit Intents
- Activity Invocation
- URI Matching
- Pending Intents

7. 07/12 Data Storage [Various data storage and mgt. systems]

- Content Providers
- SQLite
- Shared Preferences
- Internal vs. External Storage
- Network Storage Techniques

8. 08/12 Communications [best practices regarding background comm.]

- HTTP
- Bluetooth
- Network REST Calls
- JSON
- WebView
- Async Best Practice

9. 09/12 Location [Location fixes, mapping, GPS usage]

- Google Mapping API's
- Location Providers
- Mapping Overlays
- Coordinate management

- Proximity Alerts
- Geocoding

10. 10/12 Media Framework [Image, Audio, Video control]

- Media Player
- Video playback
- Audio Playback
- Camera Management
- Media App Architecture

11. 11/12 Security [User Preferences, Permissions implementation]

- Permissions
- Android/Linux Security Relationship
- Rooting Devices
- Signing Considerations
- Per-URI permissions
- Attack Vectors
- Defensive coding

12. 12/12 Publishing [Registration, Dashboard]

- Signing
- App Versioning
- Managing Screen Densities
- Managing Forward/backward Compatibility
- Revenue Models