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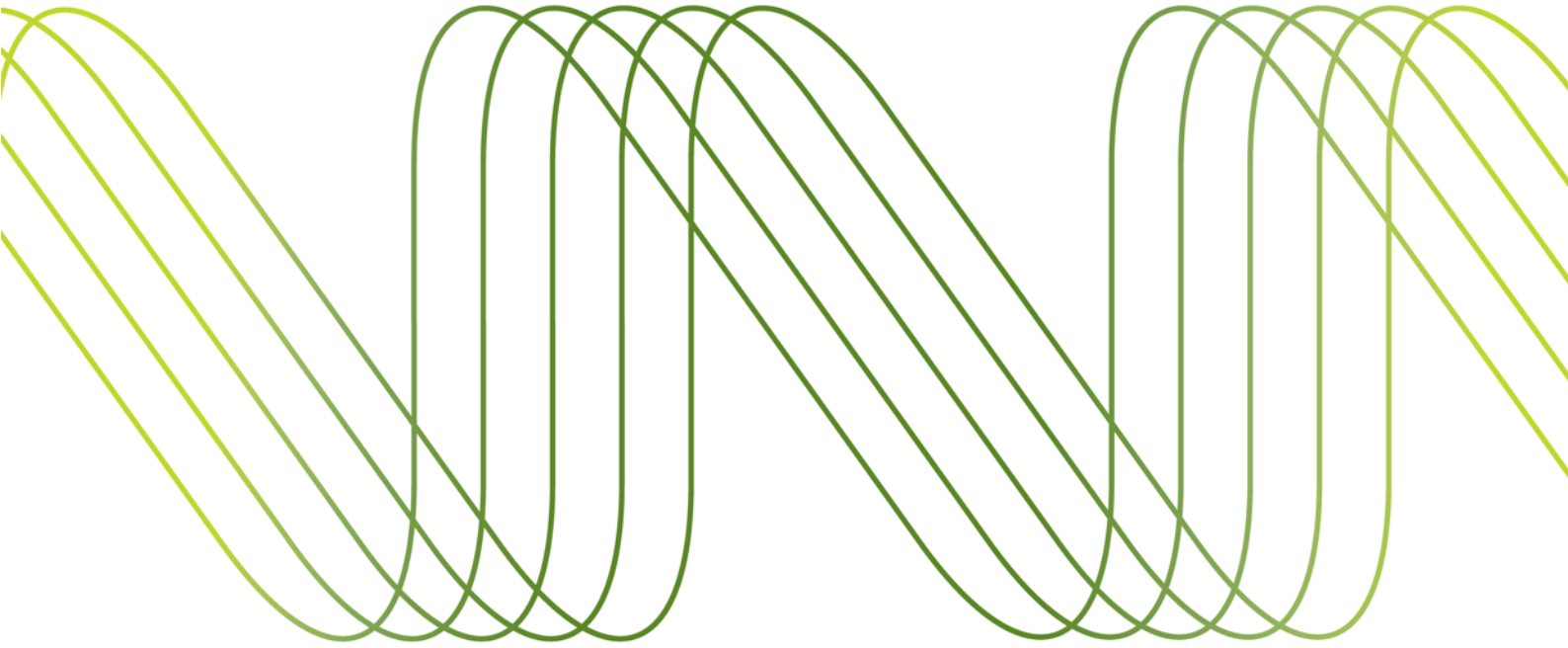
Deploying WordPress

CSC3504 Assignment 5



Deploying WordPress

Your final job is to install the WordPress content management platform on to your LAMP stack.

This will involve initialising and securing your MySQL *server* and then downloading, configuring and installing the latest version of WordPress.

Finally you'll need to make a few tweaks and post some specific content in order to get the marks ☺

Set up and start your MySQL server

As `root`, initialise and secure your MySQL server using :

`mysql_install_db` and `mysql_secure_installation`

Remember to start your server in between using:

```
sudo /etc/init.d/mysqld start
```

Prepare a WordPress database and user account

At some point you'll have to create a new database for WordPress to use – you will also need a user (with password and the correct privileges).

You will need this in place **before** you run the WordPress install script, but you will find details of how to do this in the WordPress installation instructions. At:

http://codex.wordpress.org/Installing_WordPress#Using_the_MySQL_Client

Download WordPress

Get it from:

```
http://wordpress.org/download/
```

Either the `.zip` or `.tar.gz` version should be fine. (to unpack a `.zip` file use `unzip` instead of `tar`).

Unpack it and copy the files to:

```
/usr/local/www/blog
```

Now, follow:

```
http://codex.wordpress.org/Installing_WordPress
```

blog/wp-config.php

This is an important script **and it doesn't exist yet**.

You *can* set it up manually by copying/renaming the sample file provided in the unpacked `.tar` file. See **Detailed instructions** in the documentation, where you'll find the details for setting up the database and manually generating your secret salts & hashes for `wp-config.php`.

The slicker way to do it though is to visit:

https://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/blog/

WordPress should try to run, but then works out that it hasn't been installed and *should* present you with the nice form to create `wp-config.php` automatically. What you'll get is a block of text to select and paste into an empty file made via:

```
sudo /usr/local/www/blog/wp-config.php
```

...easy ☺

(Actually) Install WordPress

You can call your blog anything you like and you can also choose your own blog admin username/password.

Do however make sure you use a real email address (that you can access!) as you'll need to pick up some of the messages that get sent there.

Edit the first post

Have a play around with the sample post, familiarise yourself with how to title, edit and update a post.

Change the theme

Visit:

```
http://wordpress.org/extend/themes/
```

Pick any theme you like from there (i.e. not `TwentyTen` or `TwentyEleven`) , install and activate it.

Feel free to be creative (don't all just pick the first one on the list!)

Upload an image

Download (to your `H:/`drive) the file `blog.jpg` from the **Tools** area for this module in Blackboard.

Upload this file to your blog's **Media library**. You might have to set the correct file permissions to allow this to happen (see lecture slides for clues).

Set permalinks

Permalinks allow you to have human readable links, connecting directly to a specific post.

Apache set up

Permalinks use `mod_rewrite`, and an `.htaccess` file, so there's a bit of tinkering in Apache to do.

You will need to add `mod_rewrite` to Apache first. Once you have done that, you need to add a `<Directory>` block to `httpd.conf` to allow `FileInfo` overrides in `/usr/local/www/blog/`

Restart Apache when you have finished.

WordPress set up

Once you've made the changes in Apache, go to your blog dashboard and open `Settings > Permalinks`.

This gives you a few basic options for rewriting blog URLs into friendly structured links. Choose **Month and name** and save the changes.

Notice the code in the bottom panel? You need to copy that and drop it into a new `.htaccess` file inside `/usr/local/www/blog`

Using permalinks

At the top of each blog post is an option to edit the permalink for that post. By default it will convert the post title into the last part of the URL, but you can manually change it.

Create your assessed post

Make a new post

Create a new post for your blog to appear at the following permalink:

http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/blog/2011/12/CSC3504

The post title should be:

```
CSC3504: Lighting the LAMP
```

It must contain (somewhere) the line:

```
WordPress runs on a LAMP stack, but is only *really* interested in
the M & P!
```

Include an image

Drop in the image `blog.jpg` from your **Media Library**.

Add a video

Download **Viper's Video Quicktags** plug-in from:

http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/vipers-video-quicktags/

Install it on your blog platform and use it to embed a `560x340` version of the video from:

```
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlRZKCLsA9o
```

Include this video in your assessed blog post.

Submitting Your Work

Although you may have been submitting files as you go along, the *only* URLs and files that will be marked will be those included in the *last submission you make before the deadline*.

This means that you will need to submit the unique files and URLs for all the components together.

Below you will find a checklist for the whole assessment and the filenames and URLs you will need to include.

Please pay close attention as *some of your files may need to be renamed in order to submit successfully*.

Also not you only need to submit one copy of each file for the final submission. For example the final version of your `httpd.conf` should contain all the changes required for all of the sub-components.

URLs to be auto-marked

These URLs should be submitted to the **URL** submission area for this assignment:

`http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/blog/`

...plus the *permalink* to your CSC3504 post e.g.:

`http://vm-eliot-NNN.ncl.ac.uk/blog/2011/12/CSC3504`

A script will access these URLs, check they are delivering the required content, functionality or error message as per the assignment details and store a copy of the output.

You should ensure that they all deliver the correct content when accessed ...and that your server is on and running!

Files to submit

Submit the files required for marking in *a single zip archive* to the **FILES** submission area for this assignment.

Name your zip file:

a123456789-vm-eliot-NNN.zip

Where **a123456789** is your student number and **NNN** is your VM number

File Checklist

Your file...	Renamed as...	×/✓
`httpd.conf`	`vm-eliot-NNN-httpd.conf.txt`	