

Training Day-28 report

24 July, 2025

Today's session focused on exploring the **internal workings of Node.js** and gaining hands-on understanding of building **server-side applications without the use of frameworks** like Express. The goal was to deepen knowledge of Node.js fundamentals and low-level server handling.

Work Undertaken:

1. Understanding Node.js Internal Architecture:

- Studied the **execution flow of a Node.js program**, which follows this order:
 - Execution of **top-level code**, including require statements and event registrations.
 - Offloading of **CPU-intensive operations** to the **libuv-managed thread pool** to prevent blocking the event loop.
 - Initiation of the **event loop**, which continues running until all tasks are completed.
- Learned the key **phases of the event loop**:
 - **Timer callbacks** (executed after their delay expires)
 - **I/O polling phase** (checks for readiness of IO operations)
 - **Immediate callbacks** (scheduled with setImmediate)
- Understood that this cycle continues until the **call stack, event queue, and internal resources are all clear**.

2. Building a Server Without Express:

- Practiced creating a **Node.js HTTP server** from scratch using the core http and url modules.
- Manually handled:
 - **Setting response headers**
 - **Reading and streaming files**
 - **Parsing incoming URL strings** and converting them into objects using url.parse()
 - **Extracting query parameters** for routing and custom response logic.

Key-Learnings:

- Gained a deeper understanding of the **Node.js event loop** and how it manages asynchronous operations efficiently.
- Learned how **libuv** delegates blocking tasks to background threads for performance optimization.
- Improved foundational skills in **writing raw server-side code**, building a better appreciation for what frameworks like Express abstract away.

Conclusion:

Today's session provided valuable insight into **low-level Node.js behavior** and helped reinforce core concepts like event-driven architecture and manual server creation. These concepts are crucial for debugging, optimization, and understanding the internals of higher-level frameworks.