Platform X Table of Contents

# Introduction

Platform X requires a way to show different sets of content at different times, and DLAP does not intrinsically support this functionality. In order to do so, we’ve taken advantage of DLAP’s capability to allow arbitrary metadata to be stored on content items. The TOC functionality provides powerful functionality to Platform-X allowing different displays of content to the end user in different situations.

# Table of Contents Functionality

When a course has more than one table of contents, a dropdown is shown above the contents tree in the content tab, allowing the user to choose which table he is looking at. Different tables of contents can be set up so, for example, e-book content can be separated from interactive quizzing content.

# Table of Contents XML

Platform-X uses a specific set of XML nodes on both the Course and Item entities to implement the above functionality.

## Course XML

In the Course entity’s “data” element the “bfw\_tocs” element is used to indicate which table of contents are available to the course. The following is an example:

<data>

<bfw\_tocs>

<course\_materials type="bfw\_toc">Course Materials</course\_materials>

<portfolioteaching type="bfw\_toc">Portfolio Teaching</portfolioteaching>

<portfoliokeeping type="bfw\_toc">Portfolio Keeping</portfoliokeeping>

</bfw\_tocs>

</data>

In the above, the name of the child elements of bfw\_tocs is irrelevant, but the value of each element is the “friendly name” of the table of contents and will be presented to the user. This means that is should not be a GUID, integer, or any other value not easily readable by humans.

## Item XML

Each item that is available in a table of contents needs to have a “bfw\_tocs” element that corresponds to the elements on the Course entity. This is how Platform-X is able to leverage DLAP’s search functionality to relate the Items. The following is an example:

<data>

<bfw\_tocs>

<bfw\_toc\_contents pare**n**tid="PX\_TOC" sequence="a">

Portfolio Keeping

</bfw\_toc\_contents>

</bfw\_tocs>

</data>

Note that in the above the “parentid” and “sequence” attributes are used to identify which Item, if any, this Item is a child of. The “sequence” attribute enforces the order in which the item will appear relative to its siblings when displayed. It is also important to realize that each Item can be a part of many distinct table of contents, and thus have different “parentid” and “sequence” attribute values for each.