# **Learning Guide Unit 7**

Site: University of the People

CS 2205 Web Programming 1 -

Course:

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Book: Learning Guide Unit 7

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Nadine Lynch

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# **Description**

Learning Guide Unit 7

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### **Overview**

#### **Unit 7: Server Side Programming with PHP**

#### **Topics:**

- Server side programming
- Languages in server web programming
- Introduction to PHP
- Learn and Practice the use of PHP

#### **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this Unit, you will be able to:

- 1. Define the value of service side programming.
- 2. Use PHP at an introductory level.

#### Tasks:

- Peer-Assess Unit 6 Assignment
- Read the Learning Guide and Reading Assignments
- Participate in the Discussion Forum (Post, Comment and Rate)
- Complete and submit Unit 7 assignments

### Introduction

So far in this course you learned about many web technologies. These technologies are used to create code for the web browser to interpret and render. For example, HTML is downloaded from the server, then the web browser displays the expected results. However, an advanced technology has been developed initially as "cgi", or Common Gateway Interface, which gave a start to what we call today Web 2.0. This technology is server side programming.

Unlike in client technologies (HTML, JavaScript, CSS, Flash, Java Applets), which are processed by the web browser and use the CPU resources of the user workstation (or phone), server side programs runs on the server, and then send output to the end user. In short, a user requests a page from the server, the server runs special server program to collect data and manipulate it, then the server sends data to the browser. Such data may include HTML and other client technologies, which are next used by the browser.

Let's say that you are logging into the UoPeople learning system (http://my.uopeople.edu). We all are using the same web page for it. However, depending on who is logged in, the page looks differently. You all get a different grade. If we were to create a static page (a Web 1.0 page) with HTML, everyone would have to look at the same grade. So, the system behind http://my.uopeople.edu accepts an input from you, then looks up data in the database (perhaps your grade), and eventually sends it back to the browser as a web page. This is all processed on the server by using a server programming language. In this instance the language is called PHP.

How do we know that UoPeople is using PHP? Well, navigate please to the login page. The URL is: http://my.uopeople.edu/login/index.php Did you notice the extension of ".php"? This means that the index.php file contains server side code and sends back data with HTML back to the browser. As you browser your favorite web pages, try to notice the extensions. Some pages may have .asp or .aspx, which means they are using Microsoft Active Server Pages or .NET. Some pages may end in .cfml, which means that the server side technology is ColdFusion by Adobe. Some pages will have .jsp, which means they are using Java.

In this unit you will learn more about PHP specifically. You will go through a hands on PHP lab. You can run and install a PHP server on your own computer for free. PHP is an open source technology. If you cannot install PHP, you can use the fully online lab included in the assignment or this page to practice PHP: http://www.programr.com/zone/php

### **Reading Assignment**

Achour, M., Betz, F., et. al. (2020, February 2). *PHP Manuel: Getting started - Introduction*. Retrieved from http://php.net/manual/en/introduction.php

W3CSchools. (n.d.). *PHP introduction*. Retrieved from http://www.w3schools.com/php/php\_intro.asp

• Complete the introductory tutorial on PHP.

#### **Video Resources**

LinkedIn Learning. (2014, July 29). *Web technology tutorial: Server-side scripting | lynda.com* [Video]. YouTube.



## **Discussion Assignment**

What is the most popular server programming language?

Can you find which web application or online systems are programmed with PHP?

Why do you think that most web pages today require server-side programming?

Why must a web developer learn more than just client-side technologies?

## **Programming Assignment**

Complete the 4 sections of the Control Structures - Loops and Conditional Statements on the PHP exercises page: https://www.phpexercises.com/php-exercises-control-structures.html

Once you complete the exercises, write an original code using one of the control structure statements and submit it as your programming assignment.

### **Checklist**

Peer-Assess Unit 6 Assignment
Read the Learning Guide and Reading Assignments
Participate in the Discussion Forum (Post, Comment and Rate)

Complete and submit Unit 7 assignments