

Introduction to Active Server Pages (3 Day)

Course Description

In this ASP training course, students will learn to build full-featured, database-driven Web sites. This introductory course for new programmers lays out the basics of server-side Web programming with an introduction to classic programming structures and good programming practices. Students will apply these programming skills to the development of a fully functional data-driven website with ASP written in VBScript. Students will harness the power of ASP to remember users with cookies and sessions, collect and process information users enter into an online form, and provide rich integration with databases to track clients, orders, and products using ASP and the enhanced functionality of ASP components.

Students will also learn to use sophisticated programming strategies and advanced features to add polish, speed and efficiency to Active Server Pages Web applications. In this ASP training course, students will work more thoroughly with ASP components for Web-to-database integration and use the server's file system to add features and functionality to a website. In addition, students will learn to work with other built-in and third-party components.

Class Goals

- Learn how ASP works
- Learn the basic syntax of ASP
- Learn to create dynamic interactive pages with ASP
- Learn to work with VBScript control structures
- Learn to use VBScript built-in functions
- Learn to work with ASP's built-in objects
- Learn to validate forms with ASP
- Learn to write functions and subroutines in ASP
- Learn to work with ASP Session, Application, and Cookie objects
- Learn to connect to a database with ASP
- Learn to send email with ASP

Course Outline

ASP: A Web Server-Side Technology

- Client-side vs. Server-side Web Technologies
- The Web's Client-Server Relationship
- Which Web Servers Support Active Server Pages?

Writing ASP Pages

- ASP Code in an HTML Context
- ASP Code is "Language Neutral"
- VBScript in ASP
- ASP Scriptlets
- VBScript Strings
- An Abbreviation for Response.Write
- Developing ASPs
- ASP Directives, Statements, Expressions and Comments
- VBScript Flexibility and Good Programming Practices

Processing Data from Online Forms

- The FORM Tag and its Attributes
- ASP Objects
- The Request and Response Objects
- Scalar Variables in ASP
- Customizing a Page for the Visitor

Conditional Constructs - IF Statements

- Comparison Operators in VBScript
- Adding an Else Clause
- Implementing an IF...ELSE...END IF Conditional
- Adding One or More ELSEIF Clauses
- The Logical AND and OR
- Combining the Form and its Processing Code in One ASP File

Working with Cookies

- Setting and Retrieving a Cookie
- Cookie Properties
- Expiring a Cookie

Maintaining State with the Session and Application Objects

- Storing and Retrieving Values in the Session Object
- Session Properties and Methods
- The Application Object

Working with Components

- Instantiating Component Objects
- Sending Email with CDONTS

Writing to a Text File

- Writing to a Tab-Delimited Text File

Loop Structures in ASP

- For...Next Loops
- Populating Select Lists
- Collections in ASP
- For Each...Next Loops and Collections

ASP-to-Database Integration with ADO

- Database Commands with SQL
- The ADO Object Model
- Retrieving a Record from the Database with ASP
- The Connection Object's Execute Method
- Building an Interface for Updating Client Records

VBScript Subroutines and Functions

- Subroutines
- Functions

Drilling Down and the Query String

- Building the Query String into a Link
- Generating Drill Down Links Dynamically
- Building an Interface for Deleting a Record