

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	i
Part 1: Introduction to ColdFusion.....	1
Static pages vs. Dynamic pages.....	2
Server-side Web Technologies	3
Database Alphabet Soup: ODBC/JDBC, DSNs and SQL	3
Course Objectives and Prerequisites.....	4
Introduction to Course Project.....	4
Part 2: ColdFusion Basics	7
Using CFML.....	7
Code Editors – Dreamweaver vs. HomeSite+.....	7
Dreamweaver 8 Interface.....	8
Arguments for use of Dreamweaver	8
HomeSite+ / ColdFusion Studio Interface	9
Arguments for use of HomeSite+ / ColdFusion Studio	10
Tag Editing Dialog Boxes.....	10
Embedded Tag Help	11
<hr> help window in HomeSite+.....	12
<hr> help window in Dreamweaver.....	12
Using ColdFusion Comments.....	13
Creating Variables	13
<cfset> and <cfoutput>.....	13
Variable Scope/Prefixes.....	14
Built-in ColdFusion Functions	16
Insert Expression (HomeSite+ / ColdFusion Studio specific).....	17
CF Function Reference (Dreamweaver specific).....	17
Demo: Built-in Functions	18
Demo: Date / Time Functions	19
Using <cfinclude> to reuse code.....	22
Demo: Create Header and Footer with <cfinclude>	22
Exercise 1: Build Dynamic Page Footer using Variables and Date Functions	25
Challenge	26
Possible Solution to Exercise 1.....	27
Part 3: Dynamic Data: Querying the Database	29
Database Basics.....	29
Introduction to SQL	32
Select Statement.....	32
Update Statement.....	32
Insert Statement	33
Delete Statement.....	33
Data Source Name (DSN) / Remote Development Server (RDS).....	33
The DSN Used in This Class: movieList	34

Course Project Database	35
Querying the database with <cfquery>	39
<cfdump> for Quick Output	40
Exercise 2: Query the database	43
Challenge	44
Possible Solution to Exercise 2	45
Customizing Display with <cfoutput>	47
Demo: Using <cfoutput>	47
Building Dynamic Tables	49
Shortcut: <cftable>	50
Shortcut: Dynamic Table Tool (in Dreamweaver).....	52
Exercise 3: Display Resulting Records manually with <cfoutput>	55
Challenge	55
Possible Solution to Exercise 3	57
Part 4: Creating a Drill-down Interface	59
Passing Variables between Pages	59
“Two-page method”	60
Demo: Pass Variables via Links	60
Demo: List of Actors with links.....	62
Receive Variables through the URL	63
Using a WHERE clause in a SQL Statement	63
Protecting Against SQL Injection Attacks with <cfqueryparam>	64
Exercise 4: Drill-down for More Detail	67
Challenge	68
Possible Solution to Exercise 4	69
Part 5: Conditional Statements and Forms	73
Conditional Statements	73
<cfif>, <cfelseif> and <cfelse>.....	74
Comparison Operators	75
Operator	75
Description.....	75
Demo: Conditional Statements	76
Demo: Conditional Statements Using URL Variables	76
Using the isDefined() function.....	79
Exercise 5: Conditional Statements – Data Validation	81
Challenge	82
Possible Solution to Exercise 5	83
HTML Form Review	85
Demo: Pass Variable through a Form.....	85
Exercise 6: Process Form Submission	89
Challenge	91
Possible Solution to Exercise 6	93
Self-Submitting Forms	97
Using the <cfparam> tag to set a default value.....	99
Quick Examination of a ColdFusion Framework (Methodology): Fusebox.....	99
Exercise 7: Self-submitting Form	101
Challenge	103

Possible Solution to Exercise 7.....	105
Dynamically Populating Select Lists	109
HTML Review: <select> tags.....	109
Demo: Dynamic Select List.....	109
Introducing the <cfform> Tag.....	111
Shortcut: <cfselect>	111
Exercise 8: Create a Dynamic Select List	113
Challenge	114
Possible Solution to Exercise 8.....	115
Part 6: Search Interface	119
Creating a Search Interface	119
Demo: Using the LIKE clause	119
Using % and _ in a LIKE Statement	119
Demo: Building Dynamic SQL Statements	121
Exercise 9: Create a Search Interface	125
Note	127
Challenge	127
Possible Solution to Exercise 9.....	129
Part 7: Insert Records into the Database.....	131
SQL Insert Statement.....	131
Demo: Insert Record Part 1 – the Form	131
Insert Record Part 2 – the Insert.....	132
Shortcut: <cfinsert>.....	133
Redirect Users with <cflocation>.....	133
Important note about <cflocation>!	134
Exercise 10: Insert a New Actor in the Database	135
Challenge	136
Possible Solution to Exercise 10.....	139
Automated Form Validation	141
Client-side vs. Server-side validation: When does the validation code run?	143
Exercise 11: Automatic Client-side (or Server-side) Form Validation.....	145
Challenge	145
Possible Solution to Exercise 11.....	147
Part 8: Edit (Update) Database Records	149
SQL UPDATE Statement Review	149
Demo: Update Record Page 1 – select the record to edit.....	150
Passing the Primary Key	150
Page 2 – View Current Data in a Form.....	151
Page 3 – Perform the Update to the Database.....	153
Shortcut: <cfupdate>.....	154
Exercise 12: Edit a Record	155
Challenge	157
Possible Solution to Exercise 12.....	159
Note on Deleting records	161
Review of the SQL Delete Statement	161
“Deleting” without deleting	161
No <cfdelete>!.....	161

Part 9: Reusing Code	163
Reusing code with <cfinclude> and <cflocation>	163
Custom Tags.....	163
Demo: custom tags.....	164
Where to store Custom Tags.....	167
Demo: Custom Tag with Parameters	168
CALLER and ATTRIBUTE scopes	169
Using <cfmodule>	170
A Note about CFX tags.....	170
Exercise 13: Calling a Custom Tag to Display a List of Years.....	171
Challenge	172
Possible Solution to Exercise 13.....	173
User Defined Functions (UDFs)	175
Creating UDFs with the <cffunction> tag.....	175
Using ColdFusion Components (CFCs)	176
Creating Components	176
Calling or Invoking Components.....	177
Passing Arguments to Components	178
The Component Code	179
The main CFML page.....	180
View a Component directly in the browser.....	181
Exercise 14: UDFs.....	183
Challenge	184
Possible Solution to Exercise 14.....	185
Part 10: Using Session Variables for Password Protection	187
Session Variables.....	187
Creating Password Protected Pages	188
The Included Page: demo-password-protect.cfm.....	188
The Log in Page: demo-password-form.cfm	189
Application.cfc.....	191
Note regarding Application.cfm	191
Locking Session and Application variables with <cflock>	191
Exercise 15: Password Protecting Pages (optional)	193
Challenge	195
Possible Solution to Exercise 15.....	197
Part 11: Tracking User Information with Cookies (optional).....	201
Demo: setting cookies	203
Note: When Using Cookies and ColdFusion 5.0.....	205
Exercise 16: Remember Users by using Cookies.....	207
Challenge	208
Possible Solution to Exercise 16.....	209
Part 12: Sending email with <cfmail> (optional)	211
Using ColdFusion to Send Email	211
<cfmail> Tag Syntax	212
Demo: Sending an email	212
Exercise 17: Sending Automated Emails	213

Possible Solution to Exercise 17.....	215
Appendix A: Resources	217
Appendix B: Set-up Notes	219
Appendix C: Create a Dreamweaver “Site”.....	221
Location of our course files	221
Site Creation – Basic.....	221
The Advanced Tab – Additional Categories:.....	231
Site Files Panel	232
“Create a Site” vs. “FTP or RDS Server Connection”	234
Appendix D: Selecting Among ColdFusion Code Reuse Methods.....	237