



OUCS'
Course
Booking
System

Sebastian
Rahtz,
Information
Manager

OUCS' Course Booking System

Sebastian Rahtz, Information Manager



Scope

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OUCS has a large commitment to training:

- 4 lecture rooms, 4 full-time teachers, 4 full-time course administrative staff, plus system development and management.
- Last term:

Courses	127
Presentations	196
Sessions	287
Bookings	3011
People	1266

Postgrad	1372
Staff	500
Undergrad	159
Visitor	110
College	84
Department	64



Course management: user perspective

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- Purely **web-based**
- Public course **discovery**
- **Webauth-protected** course booking — **shopping-cart** interface
- Account review and management
- Associated **RSS feed** and online calendar
- Tailored **Email** reminders
- Waiting list with automatic promotion



User experience 1

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Courses

This term
Courses A-Z
My Account
How to book
How to cancel

You must have an [Oxford Username](#) in order to book a course through our new course booking system

IT Learning Programme (ITLP)

A Google Calendar for OUCS Courses

Here is a Google Calendar for the OUCS Courses. If you are a user of Google Calendar, you use the following link to [add this Calendar to those displayed in your Google Calendar](#)

Our course booking system has changed. Please use **Courses A-Z** in the left hand box to find and book a course

OUCS Courses

Today ◀ ▶ December 2007 Week Month Agenda ▾

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9:15am SPSS for W		9:15am EndNote lev	9:15am EndNote lev		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15



User experience 2

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OUCS IT Learning Programme

SPSS for Windows level 3: An introduction

Courses:

Commences	Dates	Time	Status
<i>2nd week</i>	<i>Thursday 18 October</i> <i>Thursday 25 October</i>	<i>14:00-17:00</i>	<i>waiting list</i>
9th week	Monday 3 December Tuesday 4 December	09:15-12:15	waiting list Add to basket

Course Description:

SPSS is a general-purpose statistical package widely used within the academic community and of relevance to students and staff in all disciplines. The Windows



User experience 3

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OUCS IT Learning Programme

Course booking details for Sebastian Rahtz.

Course	Dates	Start time	Cost	Status		Cancel
SPSS for Windows level 3: An introduction	Monday 3 December Tuesday 4 December	09:15	£5.00	On waiting list	iCalendar	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cancel selected courses

Course management: management perspective



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We have processed 40159 bookings on 3456 course presentations since 2002

- Add, edit and delete courses, presentations and sessions
- Assign to rooms and teachers
- Review bookings and make manual changes
- Email participants to get feedback using Ostrakon
- Usage reporting
- No student or staff information in database, entirely dependent on Registration system



Course management: system perspective

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Key technologies and standards:

- Postgres **SQL** database
- **Web** form processing written in Perl
- Web form display generated in **XML** and transformed to HTML
- Atom **RSS** generation from database for alerting
- **Webauth** for authentication
- **ICS** standard for calendar records
- **LDAP** for discovering user information; database holds LDAP ID as key

Course-specific components developed and maintained at OUCS.



Course booking futures?

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notification and discovery more calendar interfaces, SMS
notification

student transcript show all OUCS courses attended

information publication in Oxford courses shared with
Careers Skills Portal using XCRI standard;
successful pilot funded by JISC



Course sharing: XCRI

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eXchanging Course-Related Information

- formal description of any further or higher education course, covering
 - provider data
 - course title and description
 - dates and places of teaching events
 - course aims, prerequisites and teaching methods
- XML schema
- course aggregation servers



Geographical course discovery

OUCS' Course Booking System

Sebastian Rahtz, Information Manager

sebastian.rahtz@gmail.com | My Profile | Saved Locations | Help | My Acc



Web Images News Maps^{New!} Products Groups Scholar more »

http://www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/oxcri/conted/archaeology.kml

Search Maps

Search the map Find businesses

Search Results My Maps

View in Google Earth Print Send Link

University of Oxford

Save to My Maps

- [HP11](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology
- [HP14: archaeology](#)
Mon 14 Jan 2008 to Sat 15 Mar 2008:
- [HP18](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology
- [HP9](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology
- [OX10](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology
- [OX11](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology
- [OX12: archaeology](#)
Wed 3 Oct 2007 to Wed 12 Dec 2007:
- [OX15](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology
- [OX18](#)
No relevant courses on archaeology

