

The JSP Standard Tag Library (2 Days)

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The JSP Standard Tag Library (CTI 180)

This course explains the JSP Standard Tag Library (JSTL), a set of four custom tag libraries that establish a portable standard for common processing tasks in JSP. JSTL is a major part of the new scriptless authoring style encouraged and enabled by the JSP 2.0 specification.

Prerequisites: Understanding of Web application architecture and JSP technology and programming. (See course CTI179.)

Minimum software requirements: Microsoft Windows 2000 or Linux, J2SE SDK, Apache Tomcat 5 Web server, MySQL RDBMS and MySQL JDBC driver.

Minimum hardware requirements for all machines: Pentium 500MHz or equivalent CPU, 256 meg RAM, 500 meg disk space. Microsoft PowerPoint and Internet access on instructor's workstation for presentation purposes.

Module 1: JSTL Overview

- The JSP Standard Tag Library
- The JSP Expression Language
- EL Syntax
- Type Coercion
- Error Handling
- Implicit Objects for EL
- JSTL Namespaces
- Using JSTL in a Page
- The Core Actions
- Going Scriptless
- Object Instantiation
- Sharing Objects
- Decomposition
- Parameterization

Module 2: The Core Actions

- The JSTL Core Library
- <c:out>
- <c:set>
- Gotchas
- Conditional Processing
- Iterative Processing
- Iterating Over Maps
- Tokenizing Strings
- Catching Exceptions
- Resource Access

Module 3: The Formatting and i18n Actions

- The JSTL Formatting Library
- Locales
- Determining Locale
- Time Zones
- Setting Locale and Time Zone
- Formatting and Parsing Dates
- Formatting and Parsing Numbers
- Internationalization
- Working with Resource Bundles
- Supporting Multiple Languages

Module 4: The SQL Actions

- The JSTL SQL Library
- Using Relational Data
- Connecting with a DriverManager
- Connecting via a DataSource
- The Result Interface
- Making a Query
- Inserts, Updates and Deletes
- Parameterized SQL
- Transactions

Module 5: The XML Actions

- The JSTL XML Library
- Using XML
- XML Data Sources
- Parsing and Addressing
- Using XPath in JSTL
- XPath vs. EL
- XPath Context
- Implicit Objects for XPath
- Conditional Processing
- Iterative Processing
- Changing XPath Context
- Working with XML Namespaces
- Using XSLT
- Chaining Transformations
- Reading XML from the Request Body
- XML and SOAP Web Services

Appendix:

Learning Resources