Course Title: SDL XPP (9.3) CSS Style Development

Variations on course: For XPP 9.2 Users specific course materials will be delivered.

Learning Objectives: You will learn best practices for developing CSS style sheets for XPP.

Topics covered include:
- Overview of XML
- Overview of XPP concepts
- How to use CSS with XPP
- Hands-on exercises.

Key Benefits: This course allows developers creating XPP styles to leverage the industry standard CSS style development language while harnessing the power and unique capabilities XPP provides to produce automated, high typographic quality content deliverables.

Target Audience: This course is for:
- Style Developers.

Prerequisites: The prerequisites for this course are:
- SDL XPP Fundamentals or equivalent understanding of the XPP environment
- Familiarity with XML or structured markup
- Basic style, typesetting and page composition concepts
- Knowledge of the requirements for the publications/deliverables you need to produce.

Further benefits will accrue to those who have experience with XML markup, CSS, Perl, and/or experience as an operator or style developer for “classic” (that is, non-XML) or non-CSS (that is, traditional XML) XPP.

This course was developed with SDL XPP v9.3 and leverages the CSS capabilities of that version release. CSS styling was introduced with XPP 9.0 and has been enhanced with each version release. Therefore customers using any version of XPP 9 will obtain benefit from this course and will be informed of the further benefits that can be achieved by upgrading to XPP 9.3.

Course Delivery Mode: This course is available in an eLearning delivery mode and is accessed via the SDL University online learning portal. The self-paced, on-demand course will take an estimated 11 hours to complete. You should allow up to a further 8 hours to complete the practical tasks. The eLearning format enables the learner to bookmark their place in the course and restart when ready. Once the course has been taken the learner can go back to any of the modules.
Further Information: For further information on this or any of our courses please contact us at learn@sdl.com

Course Outline

Module 1: Before you start
- Downloading and installing the course material

Module 2: Setting up your working environment
- Setting up an example working environment
- Using other editors
- Setting up a Perl validation tool in Notepad++

Module 3: Introduction to XML
- XML naming conventions and best practices
- Elements, attributes and XML structure

Module 4: Introduction to CSS for XPP
- The structure of CSS stylesheets
- Learning about selectors
- Learning about properties

Module 5: Course results preview
- Reviewing the XML structure
- Reviewing the delivered JOBs and finished XPP publication

Module 6: Introduction to page layout and typographic terms
- Basic page layout terms and descriptions
- Common terms such as: units, leading, etc
- Unicode character set
- Fonts

Module 7: Applying basic styling
- Setting basic CSS properties
- Exercises: beginning the sample job

Module 8: Inheritance, multiple rules and default values
- Inheritance, specificity and multiple rules
- Default values
- Exercises: reviewing the CSS for inheritance

Module 9: Applying basic page sequences and layouts
- Page sequence and page layouts
- Exercises: adding page sequences and layouts
Module 10: Advanced selectors and their uses
- Pseudo element selectors
- Outputting fixed content
- Calling XPP macros
- Calling a XyPerl function
- Outputting text via XyPerl
- Some other useful advanced selectors
- Exercises: using pseudo element selectors

Module 11: Working with attributes
- Basic CSS attribute selectors
- Using the attr CSS3 function
- Using attributes inside XyPerl
- Exercises: using attr and attributes inside XyPerl

Module 12: Working with registers
- Different types of registers
- Concept of streams in XPP
- Effect of streams on registers
- Stream diversion at XML import
- Exercises: working with registers

Module 13: Numbering
- Setting up numbering for chapters and sections
- Naming CSS based counters
- Reading out CSS based counters
- Exercises: setting up and outputting named registers

Module 14: Lists
- Unordered lists
- Ordered lists
- Nested lists
- Exercises: working with lists

Module 15: Frills processing for running heads and folios
- Frills processing
- Exercises: working with frills

Module 16: Further enhancements
- XPP specific CSS properties
- Inheritance for XPP specific CSS properties
- Vertical justification
- Widow and orphan control
- Unsupported CSS properties
- Exercises: adding XPP specific CSS properties
Module 17: Adding footnotes
- Footnotes and the PS spec
- Creating a link with the anchor
- Outputting the footnotes
- Exercises: working with footnotes

Module 18: Adding inline images
- Difference between inline images and pickups
- How to output an inline image
- Exercises: outputting inline images

Module 19: Introduction to pickups
- An introduction to pickups
- Exercises: outputting the pickups

Module 20: Introduction to CALS tables
- An introduction to tables in XPP
- Set-up for CALS tables in CSS
- Exercises: outputting CALS tables

Module 21: Introduction to HTML5 tables
- Set-up for HTML5 tables in CSS
- Exercises: outputting HTML5 tables

Module 22: Resources
- Helpful resources