

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How long do applicants have to complete the course, or is the time indefinite?

A: The course will finish fourteen weeks after it has begun. You have to finish the last activity two weeks after the unit is released. We will then close the course (we won't correct any more activities and we will publish the solutions), so there will be no point in answering the activities then.

Q: How much time should I set aside on a daily or weekly basis to keep up comfortably with the course work?

A: Approx. 5 hours per week should do, 50 hours total. It is also dependant on your previous knowledge or background. Someone with no knowledge at all might take a little more time.

Q: I understand that enrolment is limited to 100 participants. Are there any other restrictions that I should be aware of?

A: No. There will be no priority for the 100 seats.

Q: If I register and for some reason am not able to participate, can a colleague of mine take part instead of me?

A: No, we have a wait list of those who would be next in line for the course. You were chosen to take part of the course. If you can not take it at the time given, you can not transfer your registration.

Q: Is the course refundable

A: Yes. If you cancel prior to February 14, you will receive a full refund minus a \$50 processing fee. If you cancel after February 14, no refunds will be made.

Q: Is this an HL7 pre-certification course?

A: No, it is not. Pre-certification courses are face-to-face and are only offered at the Educational Summits, Working Group Meetings or On-Site Meetings. This course is an introductory course only.

Q: The prerequisites seem minimal; would someone who is not a software developer be able to master the material?

A: If you are not a developer, or weren't a developer at some point of your life (and now you are managing projects) or you have not some computer savvy or interest in informatics (i.e. you are not in 'medical informatics') the material will be not only be difficult to master but also boring...

Q: When does registration for this course close?

A: Registration closes on March 2, 2012, unless the registration sells out first. PLEASE register right away, because registration has sold out in less then 4 hours the last 2 times we have offered the course.

Q: How do I proceed after registration?

A: The **week before** the course begins you will receive instruction on how to obtain your user name and password to access the course presentation. Week by week the units and activities will be released.

Q: How will this compare to face to face classes (Education Summits/Working Group Meetings)?

A: Both approaches have their advantages. The topics in this edition of the course will be INTRODUCTORY. It's aimed mainly to people not acquainted to any HL7 standard, so if you have doubts on specific subjects that are a little more advanced, you will prefer to take some face to face tutorials. This initiative won't replace face-to-face tutorials, it's a complement, and each person should select the strategy that better suit his/her professional needs.

Q: Will it cover the same topics that are given at Education Summits or Working Group Meetings?

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A: There are many more different topics available at the Education Summits and WGM's. This course is an INTRODUCTORY course. At the Ed Summits and WGM's the classes permit an optimal blending of textbook material and professional insight based on the diverse real-world experiences of the participants.

Q: How helpful is HL7 Version 2 knowledge when dealing with HL7 Version 3?

A: If you already have practical experience in applying V3 to solve real-world interoperability problems, the course won't help you directly. But if you are new to both V2 and V3, or if you have lots of doubts and questions, the course will help you because there are some basic concepts in interoperability that are shared by the two versions. The V2 part of the course will also provide a real-world experiential background to the limitations of v2 that V3 is able to solve.

Q: What will be the course like?

A: Participants will be organized into virtual classrooms (no more than 25 students per classroom), and there will be between one and two tutors per classroom, and one co-tutors per subject. Each week, the tutor(s) will release a new unit on-line. Each unit has, reading material and mandatory activities, self-evaluation questionnaires to review concepts, and in some cases there are additional reading materials and optional activities for those who want to learn and practice a little more. All activities are based in real implementation scenarios. See the course descriptions for more detailed information.

Q: How will we be evaluated?

A: Tutors and co-tutors will review students' activities, moderate the forums, and will aide students in their learning process. The forums will remain open after the course is closed to serve as a communication network between students and their tutors.

Q: Does my computer need special characteristics?

A: No, there are no special requirements for your computer. The only things that you must have are internet browsing and PDF viewing capabilities.

Q: What are the scheduled class times?

A: The course modality is virtual and has no predefined class times. You may work on the course when you have time.

Q: What e-learning tools will be used?

A: The course is Moodle based (www.moodle.org)

Q. Do I need to know XML to take the course?

A: No, you do not need to know XML prior to taking the course (but it is ok to).

Q: What is the cost of the web class?

A: This is listed on the brochure and differs by country