

Drupal Training: Intro to UNT System ITSS Central Web Services  
Glossary of Drupal Terminology | <https://it.unt.edu/drupal-glossary>

1. **Account:** Users create accounts by registering on the site or receiving log-in information (username and password) from a site administrator. When the user is logged in under that account, any content he or she creates in the future will be associated with them.
2. **Anonymous:** A visitor to a Drupal website who is not currently logged in. Drupal considers any such visitor as being the anonymous user, with the user ID 0, and belonging to the anonymous user role.
3. **Basic page:** One of two content types that are enabled in the standard installation profile. Typically, basic pages are used for static content that can (but are not required to) be linked into the main navigation bar.
4. **Base theme:** A well-written set of CSS and template files that a theme developer can make use of in a new custom theme. Theme developers can make sub themes to override the default base theme. The base themes included with our Drupal distro are ZURB Foundation and Seven.
5. **Block:** The boxes visible in the regions of a Drupal website. Most blocks are generated on-the-fly by various Drupal modules, but they can be created in the administer blocks area of a Drupal site.
6. **Cache:** The core Drupal cache stores assembled pages and blocks for anonymous visitors in the cache tables in the database.
7. **Content type:** Every node belongs to a single “node type” or “content type”, which defines various default settings for nodes of that type, such as whether the node is published automatically and whether comments are permitted. Content types can have different fields and modules can define their own content types. The core Drupal Book and Poll modules are two examples of modules that define content types.
8. **Cron:** A command scheduler that executes commands or scripts (e.g. scripts to back up a database) automatically at specified time and date intervals. Drupal uses a “cron job” to perform periodic tasks that help Drupal to run smoothly and efficiently.
9. **D7:** Drupal 7. Version 7 of Drupal, which includes any minor version, e.g. Drupal 7.54.
10. **Distribution, also known as “distro”:** A single downloadable archive containing Drupal core, contributed modules, themes, and pre-defined configuration. A distribution provides site features and functions for a specific type of site. They make it possible to quickly set up a complex, use-specific site in fewer steps than if installing and configuring elements individually.

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- 11. Drush:** Short for “Drupal shell”. A command line shell and scripting interface for Drupal. CWS uses Drush to manage Drupal sites on its Linux servers.
- 12. Entity:** Any defined chunk of data in Drupal. This includes things like nodes, users, taxonomy terms, files, etc. Contributed modules can define custom entities. Each entity type can have multiple bundles.
- 13. Feature:** Drupal configuration exported into code using the Features module. In Drupal 7, Features has become the standard way of exporting and versioning configuration that is stored in the database so that it can be moved from development to quality assurance, QA, to production in a repeatable manner. The WDC Basic Page and WDC Hero Feature are features in the Drupal distro.
- 14. Field:** Elements of data that can be attached to a node or other Drupal entities. Fields commonly contain text, image, or terms.
- 15. Filter:** A tool for stripping out HTML, PHP, JavaScript, and other undesirable elements from content before pages are displayed. Other filters add formatting and features, such as smilies.
- 16. Input format:** A tool for defining the processing that happens to user-entered text before it is shown in the browser. Usually different user roles are given permission to use different input formats depending on how much they are trusted.
- 17. Library:** A library of code from a third party. (In our distro, the Plupload integration module is dependent on the Plupload library, which is a “cross-browser multi-runtime file uploading API” from Ephox.)
- 18. Log:** A list of recorded events. A log may contain usage data, performance data, errors, warnings and operational information. Drupal’s events are logged by the modules dblog and syslog.
- 19. Menu:** In Drupal, the term refers both to the clickable navigational elements on a page and to Drupal’s internal system for handling requests. When a request is sent to Drupal, the menu system uses the provided URL to determine what functions to call.
- 20. Module:** Code that extends Drupal features and functionality (but doesn't provide the HTML markup or styling of a theme). Drupal core comes with required (pre-installed) modules and some of which are optional. Thousands of non-core or “contrib” modules are listed in Drupal.org’s project directory.
- 21. Node:** A piece of content in Drupal, typically corresponding to a single page on the site, that has a title, an optional body, and perhaps additional fields. Every node also belongs to a specific content type, and can

additionally be classified using the taxonomy system. Examples of nodes are polls, stories, book pages and images.

- 22. Path:** In Drupal terms, a unique, last part of the URL for a specific function or piece of content. For instance, for a page whose full URL is <http://example.com/node/7>, the path is “node/7”.
- 23. Permission:** In Drupal, a permission is a tool for controlling access to content creation, modification and site administration at the application level. Administrators assign permissions to roles (such as “Administrator”, “Authenticated User” and “Anonymous User”), then assign users to those roles. The first user of a Drupal site (user1) automatically receives all permissions. (The “cws” user account is user1 in the distro.)
- 24. Published:** The state of a node that can be viewed by visitors to the website. To easily hide nodes from the public (i.e. anonymous role), go to the add/edit form of the node and uncheck the “Published” select box. This effectively un-publishes the node.
- 25. Region:** Defined areas of a page where content can be placed. Basic regions include: Header, Footer, Content, Left sidebar, Right Sidebar. Content is assigned to regions via blocks. They can be ordered by weight within regions to define the order in which they display. Content with a more negative weight, such as -10, will appear above content with a more positive weight, such as 1.
- 26. Role:** A name for a group of users, to whom you can collectively assign permissions. There are two predefined, locked roles for every new Drupal installation: *authenticated user* (anyone with an account on the site) and *anonymous user* (those who haven't yet created accounts or are not logged in). Additional roles can be created and users can belong to more than one.
- 27. RSS:** Really Simple Syndication. A family of Web feed formats used to publish frequently updated content such as blog entries, news headlines or podcasts. An RSS document (which is called a “feed” or “web feed” or “channel”) contains either a summary of content (“teaser”) from an associated web site or the full text. RSS is one of the many ways of connecting a Drupal website with external sites, systems and data. (In our distro, the WDC Feeds module/feature allows users to easily set up RSS and iCal feeds on their D7 site with presets for common UNT feeds.)
- 28. Sub-theme:** Basically, a custom (child) theme that inherits certain attributes from a base (parent) theme, such as style sheets, template files, functions and overrides. (In our distro, the “UNT Foundation” theme is both a sub-theme of the “ZURB Foundation” base theme and a base theme of the “UNT Sub” sub-theme.)

- 29. Taxonomy:** A powerful core module that gives your site use of the organizational keywords known in other systems as categories, tags, or metadata. It allows you to connect, relate and classify your site's content. In Drupal, these terms are gathered within "vocabularies". The Taxonomy module allows you to create, manage and apply those vocabularies.
- 30. Teaser:** A short introductory sentence or paragraph about a piece of content that informs readers about the subject of the content. By default, the first paragraph or two of the content is used (there is a setting for how much), usually with a link to the complete node.
- 31. Term:** An organizational keyword, known in other systems as categories or metadata. A term is a label that can be applied to a node. They are also known as tags.
- 32. Theme:** A collection of templates files, configuration files and asset files (JavaScript, CSS, images, fonts) which together determine the look and feel of a site. A theme contains elements such as the header, icons, block layout, etc.
- 33. User:** The user interacting with Drupal. This user is either anonymous or logged into Drupal through its account.
- 34. Varnish:** A web application accelerator also known as a caching HTTP reverse proxy, which is installed in front of a web server and configured to cache its contents. CWS uses Varnish to cache the contents of its hosted sites, which can significantly improve site performance for anonymous users.
- 35. Views:** A module which allows site developers a graphical interface for creating lists of various Drupal entities; most notably users and nodes. Views permits selection of specific fields to display, filtration against various attributes, choice of basic layout options, e.g. list, full entities, teasers, and other more advanced features.

**Sources:**

<https://www.drupal.org/docs/7/understanding-drupal/glossary>

<https://www.drupal.org/docs/7/organizing-content-with-taxonomies/organizing-content-with-taxonomies>