

## Why Ruby (on Rails)?



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# Course requirements

A little bit of history

# Goal and context, 2012

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- Goal
  - ▣ design and implement a Social Network site
    - rapid prototyping
- 6 credits (course) module
- Uniform students' background
  - ▣ previous web programming course, here
    - Web architecture(s), HTML, CSS, JSP, ...
  - ▣ all of you know Java
  - ▣ not everybody “loves” programming

# Goal and context, today

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- Goal
  - ▣ design and implement a Social Network site
    - rapid prototyping
- 6 credits (course) module
- Diverse students' background
  - ▣ no previous web programming course, here
    - we need to speak about Web architecture(s)
  - ▣ most of you know Java
  - ▣ not everybody “loves” programming
  - ▣ **this year**, few of you already knows PHP

# What we are looking for...

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**Good documentation**

**A main web framework (with batteries)**

**Active and compact community**

**Rapid development/prototyping**

**Object-oriented language**

**Usage of modern technologies (REST, Ajax, ...)**

# Other (soft) requirements

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- No old/inactive/deprecated technologies
- Modern best practice should be enforced
- Real-world usage in *at least* one Social Network

# Languages to consider

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PHP

Python

Java

Ruby

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# Why not Java?

When Java meets the Web...



# Java Server Pages (JSP)

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“JSP technologies is considered to be a deprecated presentation technology for Java Server Faces 2.0”

- The Java EE 6 Tutorial, Oracle, 2010

(<http://docs.oracle.com/javaee/6/tutorial/doc/giepx.html>)

# Java Server Faces (JSF)

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Available frameworks not yet fully “compatible”

Sparse documentation

A lot of jars to download and install manually

Java

# Java Server Faces (JSF)

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**Good documentation**

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(REST, Ajax, ...)**

# For the enterprise!

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- Java Server Faces (JSF) is included in Java Enterprise Edition
- Alternative, for the Web: the Spring IO platform
  - ▣ motto: “Let’s build a better Enterprise”
  - ▣ <http://spring.io>
  - ▣ rapidly evolving
  - ▣ 25 different projects (modules) in the entire platform
    - the Spring Framework is the core module we could be interested in

# Java/Spring Framework

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**Good documentation**

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**Rapid development/prototyping**

**Object-oriented language**

**Usage of modern technologies  
(REST, Ajax, ...)**

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# Why not PHP?

# PHP

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A lot of web frameworks (18 and growing)

Very spread

Little real-world usage of OOP

Fragmented communities (for frameworks)

A lot of dilectantism (bad for docs and problems)

Very flexible

# PHP

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**Good documentation**

**A main web framework**

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**Object-oriented language**

**Usage of modern technologies  
(REST, Ajax, ...)**



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# Why not Python?

When Python meets the Web...

# Django

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One of the web framework for Python

Speed and agility in building applications

Admin built-in

Usage of conventions (DRY, ORM, sort of MVC)

Good documentation

Neat markup

DB Schema Migration included

Big community

Do not include any modern Web technologies

Caching included

Open Source

Structured code

# Django in the real world...

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**DISQUS**

**rdio**<sup>TM</sup>



*Pinterest*



**Atlassian**  
**bitbucket**

# Python/Django

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**Good documentation**

**A main web framework**

**Active and compact community**

**Rapid development/prototyping**

**Object-oriented language**

**Usage of modern technologies  
(REST, Ajax, ...)**

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# So... Why Rails?

When Ruby meets the Web...

# Ruby on Rails

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The main web framework for Ruby

Speed and agility in building applications

No admin built-in

Large usage of conventions (DRY, CoC, MVC, ORM)

Good documentation

Neat markup and structured code

DB Schema Migration

Big community

Include various modern Web technologies

Caching included

Predefined file structure

Increasing efficiency

Open Source

# Ruby on Rails in the real world...

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**Scribd.**



**hulu**

# Ruby/Ruby on Rails

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**Good documentation**

**A main web framework**

**Active and compact community**

**Rapid development/prototyping**

**Object-oriented language**

**Usage of modern technologies  
(REST, Ajax, ...)**



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# Final thought...

# The “right” tool for the job




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- Goal of this module:
  - ▣ rapid prototyping a Social Network
  - ▣ using modern Web technologies
- Rails seems to be the “right” tool, here
  - ▣ given your various background
  - ▣ given the course goals
- Course-specific decision
  - ▣ it is not a dogma
  - ▣ no general choice/decision

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