

# Über mich:

- VOGT, Veit-Dieter
- Physiker
- Einige Jahre in einer Unternehmensberatung angestellt, dort hauptsächlich EDV-Projekte
- Seit 1995 selbstständig IT-Dienstleistungsbranche
- Erste Kontakte mit Linux und Open Source Software ~1995
- Seitdem zunehmend begeistert von FLOSS
- FLOSS Enthusiast und Evangelist

# Master Level Courses

# in Free Software

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## Master level courses in Free Software

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# The Free Technology Academy (FTA)

- distance learning through a virtual campus:
   100% free / libre / open source technology.
- All courses are about concepts and vendor-independent
   Free Software and Open Standards
- courses are Master level
- the FTA aims to set up an International Master Programme on Free Technologies
- all education materials are under free licences (OER)
- This offer is unique worldwide





# FTA and the partner network





**Universitat Oberta** de Catalunya

www.uoc.edu











Universidad Rey Juan Carlos





















# FTA financing

First three years (2008 to 2010)



Lifelong Learning Programme

From 2011 the partner network





#### **Bad news**

- In 2011 the financing by the EC Lifelong Learning programme ended
- From now on the FTA has to finance itself
- Because there were too few students, the partner universities had to subsidise the FTA, and decided at the end of 2011 to stop doing so. This made the courses no longer viable and the regular course programme was shut down.







#### **Good news**

The founders of the FTA, together with an enthusiastic group of students, do not want this unique opportunity to focus on Free Software, to disappear. They are therefore pioneering a new model. Instead of being organised top-down, the courses are being organised bottom-up. Students who want to do a particular course find a group of like-minded students, who want to do the same course, and then ask the FTA to run the course.







# The FTA Community

- Building up a Free Technology Guild
   a network of people interested in doing concrete work
   and getting educational and economic opportunities.
- Organising student interest groups for courses
- Working on curriculum development
- Working on educational methodologies
- Etc.





# Studying at FTA

- Students of the participating universities can use the FTA courses to fill in or complement their curriculum. The universities recognise the credits obtained at the FTA.
- People who are not studying at one of the universities, but are considering the option of getting a full degree, might start at the FTA and get their certificates at the FTA. When desired, they can register for a Master programme at one of the participating universities and may get a waiver for the credits they have already gained at the FTA.





#### FTA courses I

Course modules:

http://ftacademy.org/courses/modules

- The Concepts of Free Software and Open Standards
- GNU/Linux Basic Administration
- GNU/Linux Advanced Administration
- Network Technologies





#### FTA courses II

- Web Applications Development
- Software Development
- Software Architecture
- Free Software Tools and Utilities





#### FTA courses III

- Deployment of Free Software
- Economic Aspects of Free Software
- Legal Aspects of the Information Society

download: http://ftacademy.org/materials











#### **FTA** future

- Master degree: A taskforce is preparing a programme for a joint degree of UOC, OUNL, URJC and FKI/FTA
- The FTA is seeking funding for a truly common Master Curriculum with quite a few participating European universities

see:

campus.ftacademy.org/wiki/index.php/Master-Curriculum

 The FTA expects to continue its transition to a fully community organised platform





#### **Final words**

- There is a growing need for specialists in GNU/Linux and Free Software
- Join us online to share, learn, develop, improve and/or translate course materials and extend the curriculum
- Stay informed: http://ftacademy.org/newsletter
- Join the FTA Discussion list
- Join the FTA Community:

http://campus.ftacademy.org/community/



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### What is needed most

- Students
- Students
- and more students
- Registration form at the FTA website:
- https://ftacademy.org/enrolment-help
- Help spread the word!
- Funding, donations
- expand curriculum, partner network





# Thank you for your kind attention!

Questions?



