

Applying Dublin Core metadata to a University Home Page

About This Exercise

In this exercise you will work in a group to apply Dublin Core metadata attributes to your University home page.

The Problem

The Dublin Core defines 15 metadata elements that can be used to describe resources such as Web pages. The aim of the Dublin Core is primarily to improve resource discovery on the Web. The Dublin Core RFC that defines the meanings of the elements is available separately. The aim of the following tasks is to see how useful the Dublin Core might be as a way of describing pages on your Web Site?

Your Tasks

Task 1 Assigning Dublin Core Metadata

Each member of the group should attempt to define a full set of Dublin Core metadata for their University home page, i.e. to complete all 15 elements.

- Remember that Dublin Core elements can be repeated if necessary.
- Discuss each element with the other members of the group.
- Try to aim for a fairly consistent set of university home page descriptions.
- Try to identify vocabularies for elements where possible.

Task 2 How Useful is the Dublin Core?

Discuss which of the Dublin Core elements will be most useful to your users. Try to group the elements as follows:

- Very useful
- Moderately useful
- Not useful

Are there any key attributes missing from the Dublin Core?

Task 3 Dublin Core for Other Resources

If you have time, consider how you might use the Dublin Core to describe other kinds of resources on your Web-site. For example:

- Departmental pages
- Research papers
- The prospectus

What are the differences if any?