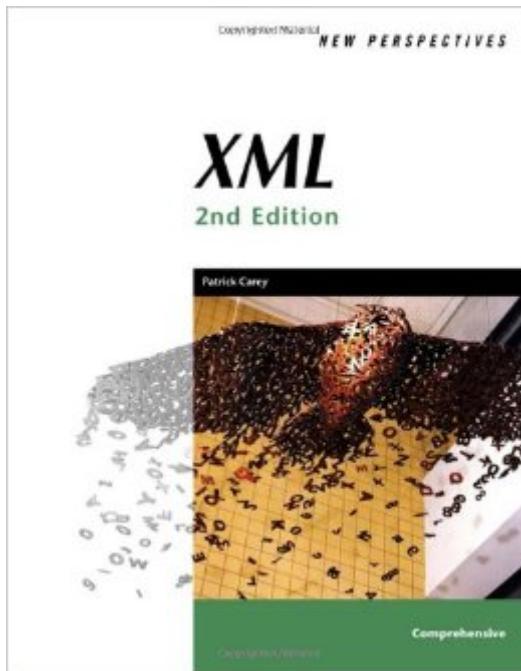# New Perspectives On XML, Second Edition, Comprehensive (New Perspectives Series)

Synopsis

Updated to teach the most current XML standards, this book uses real-world case studies and a practical, step-by-step approach to teach XML. It provides extensive coverage of DTDs, namespaces, schemas, Cascading Style Sheets, XSLT, XPath, and programming with the WSC document object model.

Book Information

Series: New Perspectives Series

Paperback: 736 pages

Publisher: Cengage Learning; 2 edition (August 6, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1418860646

ISBN-13: 978-1418860646

Product Dimensions: 1 x 8.5 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 2.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (39 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #504,960 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #77 in Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Languages & Tools > XML   #1549 in Books > Computers & Technology > Networking & Cloud Computing > Internet, Groupware, & Telecommunications #2039 in Books > Textbooks > Computer Science > Programming Languages

Customer Reviews

To be fair, I am not a fan of the Thompson Course Technology books in general. But this is the first one that actually drove me to write a negative review to spare some innocent XML programmer-to-be the confusion this book will likely cause.Our local community college unfortunately requires this text (a fair percentage of the classes seem to use Course Technology books because of the pre-fab quizzes, Powerpoints, and online supplements available to the instructors who can't be bothered to make their own).The good: The Chapters are called "Tutorials" and in general, if you can read and copy the tutorials line for line, you will be able to get them to validate. However, you probably won't understand why in many cases.The ugly: Like most of the Course Technology textbooks I've seen, there are significant typos and the explanations are very poor and awkward. There is little or no rigor in defining terms, the author often uses a tangential example as an adequate explanation for the entire concept.Many explanations are as clear as mud. Case in point p. 199 (which is only partially understandable to me because I've taken a few

computer classes (including C++ object oriented programming) and the concept of scope is familiar to me, even if the word is never mentioned here):"In XML Schema, any element or attribute that is declared globally has to be entered as a qualified name in the instance document. The reason is that global elements and attributes are added to the target namespace, while local objects are not. Local objects are interpreted based on the namespace affiliation of the object in which they're nested.

This book was required for a college course I was taking so I had to buy it or not take the class. It was the only XML class offered so I took it. Because of this book, I felt like the whole course was pretty much a waste of time because this book focuses on old technologies and old browsers.For the facts on why this book is terrible:I'm running a 64-Bit Windows 7 OS with IE11 and the newest versions of Chrome and Firefox... the reason I'm telling you this is that this book was published before Windows 7 and Chrome were both released. There's no mention of Chrome in this book and it's one of the largest browsers being used with the internets. None of the tutorials were compatible with Chrome or IE 11 and I had to find an old laptop running Windows XP to test my assignments.My opinion on why it's terrible: - After a while the formula that the author used to describe things was very irritating. It got to the point where I could predict what was going to said and I found that very annoying because of the repetitiveness. - When I got this book I had an understanding of what XML was and how it was used but I didn't know the details on how to use it with applications. After reading this book I feel that the processes for developing with XML in this book are no longer industry standards. I can't say that with 100% certainty, but with how much development technology has advanced in the last 5 years, a book that was published in 07 can't possibly be the standards for today's development.Why I'm not giving this 1 star:If you know nothing about XML at all, the book does a decent job at teaching you the very basics and history of the language, so you do actually learn something.

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