# How to Install a "Sandbox" Moodle on Your Windows PC

Rick Jerz
The University of Iowa

www.rjerz.com Rick-m@rjerz.com

## **Objectives**

- Overview
- Install Moodle on PC with XAMPP
  - Install Moodle on Mac with MAMP
- Examples of what you can do
  - Some moodle settings
  - Some php.ini settings
  - Some custom CSS
    - Color top bar
  - Add a plugin
    - "Collapsed Topics"

#### **Overview**

- A "sandbox" Moodle
  - Not for production!
  - For education and experimenting

#### Can and Can't Do

- Can
  - Experiment with many Moodle settings
  - Act as manager, teacher, student
  - Create courses and move to production
  - Create quizzes and move to production
  - Themes and CSS
  - Explore add-ins
- Can't
  - Email related items
  - Have others log in (from the Internet)
  - Cron is limited

# Many Ways to Install

- Moodle.org installers
  - One-step, but often lack some feature
- Install manually!
  - XAMPP + Moodle, Windows PC
  - MAMP + Moodle, Macintosh computer

# **Moodle Requirements**

- A moodledata folder
- A database
- The moodle application

#### What do we have?

- A working copy of Moodle
- A local "server" running
- Nothing in Moodle, yet!
- Review Steps:
  - Start XAMPP Control Panel
  - Start Apache and MySQL servers
  - Go to localhost/moodle in your browser
- Make NOTES!!!!!

# **Examples of Experimentation**

- Adjust some settings
- Edit settings in php.ini
- Add Custom CSS
- Install a plugin

## **Moodle Settings**

- Turn off guest access
- Administration / Plugins/ Authentication / Manage authentication
- Guest login button = Hide

# php.ini Settings

- Find and edit php.ini
- Turn on intl, xmlrpc, soap
- Add my favorites:
  - upload\_max\_filesize = 128M
  - post\_max\_size = 128M
  - memory\_limit = 384M
  - max\_input\_time to 600
  - max\_execution\_time to 300
  - max\_input\_vars = 5000;
- Stop and restart the Apache server

#### **Custom CSS**

- Change color of upper bar
  - (Distinguish sandbox from production moodles)
- Administration/Appearance/Boost/Advanced Settings
- In Raw SCSS, add the following:
   .bg-white
  - {background-color: orange !important;}
- Purge caches

# **Moodle Plugins**

- Collapsed Topics
- Others that I use
  - Checklist
  - Configurable Reports
  - A few ATTO utilities

## Summary

- A "sandbox" moodle on your computer is great!
- Can't do this with other LMSs.
- I hang out in the Moodle.org forums, if you need me.

#### The End

For more support, including this video, go to

www.rjerz.com

## **Future Topics**

- Reinstalling
- Installing more than one
- Setting up opcache
- Modifying the database config file
- Backup/restore of Moodle
- Migrating Moodle
  - Production to local, and vice versa