Ruby on Rails, Part 5 of 5: Administration and API

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Meet the expert: Jordan Hudgens has certifications for Ruby on Rails, Thinkful; Ruby on Rails, Bloc.io; Front End Development, Thinkful; and AngularJS, Thinkful. He is currently vice president of engineering for TRACKR in Midland, Texas and is working on his PhD in Computer Science from Texas Tech. In addition to Ruby, Jordan works with PHP, JavaScript, MySQL, Postgres, CSS3, C, C++, C#, Objective-C, and Python. He also works with the frameworks Rails (Ruby), Zend (PHP), and Django (Python), plus the libraries AngularJS, jQuery, and Backbone.js.

Prerequisites: This course teaches anyone who is interested in learning the basics of programming computers using Ruby on Rails. This course has no programming language prerequisites and only assumes basic familiarity with computer usage. Anyone with moderate computer end-user experience should be able to take this course. Please view the Ruby on Rails: Intro to Development, Ruby on Rails: Best Practices, Ruby on Rails: Data, Design and Deploy, and Ruby on Rails: Search and Sorting courses before taking this course.

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Course description: In this course we will walk through the process of building an authentication system into our application, normally this would be a very challenging process due to all of the requirements associated with an enterprise level user management system, however we will be leveraging the Devise gem, which will provide all of the functionality that we're going to need. Next we will integrate several authorization mechanisms that show and hide elements on the view depending on whether a user is signed in or not. We will also be integrating the popular active admin gem to generate a full administrator dashboard, including a variety of configuration changes that need to be made in order to have the gem work in conjunction with other gems in the Gemfile of our project. As our final feature build for the project we will walk through how to create an API for your application and have it respond to both JSON and XML data requests. To complete the section I'll discuss and name some additional resources and popular gems that can be used in your Ruby on Rails educational journey.

Course outline:

Authentication
- Introduction
- What is it?
- Setup
- Update
- Demo: Install Devise
- Demo: Devise
- Summary

Authorization
- Introduction
- Differences
- Implementation in View
- Demo: Authorization
- Demo: Authorizing Content
- Summary

Active Admin
- Introduction
- Why use Active Admin?
- Installation
- Setup
- Customization
- Demo: Install Active Admin
- Demo: Initializers
- Demo: Site Preview
- Demo: Dashboard
- Summary

API Creation
- Introduction
- What is an API?
- Implementation
- Demo: API Creation
- Demo: Cleanup
- Demo: Validation
- Demo: Layouts
- Summary

Resources
- Introduction
- Resources: Books
- Resources: Gems
- Summary