**MongoDB for Python Developers**

**Duration:** 4 Days  
**Course Code:** GK2353

**Overview:**

This course is a deep exploration of building applications in MongoDB (the most popular NoSQL document-database). There are many benefits to choosing a NoSQL database over traditional RDBMSs such as SQL Server or Oracle. This course starts out by looking at why you should choose a NoSQL database in the first place. We will explore the native query language and capabilities of MongoDB. Then we will start working with MongoDB from our Python applications and look at several topics that explore the advanced aspects of the MongoDB Python API including MongoDB from Python, PyMongo, ODMs such as MongoEngine, and more. We will see how to leverage the immense scalability of MongoDB using the aggregation framework, replica sets, and sharding. You will discover how to store and manage files of virtually unlimited size in MongoDB using GridFS. We will discuss how to properly design your entities and documents (both natively and in Python) to take full advantage of what MongoDB has to offer. Finally, we will round out the course with a few topics that you will need to be successful with MongoDB including Server administration for developers and Security and permissions.

Why should you choose DevelopMentor’s MongoDB course? At DevelopMentor we have experience building and running large scale MongoDB deployments including our online learning platform LearningLine and develop.com itself. The course authors work closely with the MongoDB team and are in the MongoDB Masters program. We have been teaching MongoDB in our Python courses and our Guerrilla .NET course for several years. In short, we know what we’re doing with MongoDB and Python and we’d love to share it with you.

**Objectives:**

- Learn why you should consider NoSQL as your database
- Discover the MongoDB shell and ‘native’ query language and capabilities
- Work with MongoDB from Python using PyMongo
- Use a rich ODM (object data mapper) such as MongoEngine
- Design your classes and entities to take full advantage of MongoDB
- Build and tune high performance applications with indexing and profiling
- Work with the file system (GridFS) within MongoDB from Python
- Answer complex questions while leveraging MongoDB’s scalability using the aggregation framework
- Learn enough to administration MongoDB servers to be productive
- Scale out using sharding and replica sets
- Add security and permissions to MongoDB
- Build and tune high performance applications with indexing and profiling
Content:

Day 1

Why NoSQL and why MongoDB?

We explore the history of NoSQL databases and why they are becoming so popular, so quickly. We discuss the various categories of NoSQL databases including document databases, key-value stores, column-store databases, and graph databases. While these databases initially seem to have little in common, we will examine a common thread that flows between them. Next, we dig into MongoDB including why it’s the industry leader, the techniques it uses to become immensely scalable, and why it makes life much easier and simpler for development teams.

The shell and ‘native’ commands

You will learn the native commands and query syntax for MongoDB. In order to fully appreciate what each language driver (database API) is doing, you will need to be fluent in working with MongoDB at the server level. That is the goal of this topic. We will see how to query, insert, and update data. We will explore the many operators in the JavaScript API (e.g. $in).

MongoDB from Python

Accessing MongoDB from Python applications is easy and familiar to most Python developers. You will see how PyMongo uses the rich dictionary support in Python to create a similar API as MongoDB’s native JavaScript query syntax. However, there some gotchas (both for execution and performance) and this lesson will ensure you get the most.

Day 2

Real world MongoDB with MongoEngine

Entity Design

Designing entities in MongoDB (and document databases more generally) is very different than 3rd-normal-form from SQL tables. To be successful with MongoDB, you will need to master this skill. Getting your entity design correct is key to high performance and flexible applications. We will start by discussing some foundational OOD background on these rich documents and how you can leverage them for transactional safety. There are inherent limitations to documents (e.g. total size) and this lesson covers how work within those limits. We will talk about modeling relationships between data (embedding, foreign keys, data duplication). Finally, we discuss how to correctly deal with binary data and large data elements in MongoDB entities.

Indexing and profiling

Day 3

GridFS - A file system within MongoDB

MongoDB has a facility to store, classify, and query files of virtually unlimited size (binary data, text data, etc.). This lesson will introduce GridFS and show you how to work with it from Python. We will upload, download, and list files in GridFS. We will create custom metadata definitions (classes) and store them within our GridFS files which can then be used for rich reporting and querying that does not exist in standard file systems. We will alert you to a few pitfalls that lurk within GridFS and show you how to fill them in and avoid any trouble. Finally, we look at how GridFS is particularly well suited for web applications which the files (images, etc.) can be cached on the client-side.

Aggregation framework

The aggregation framework in MongoDB allows you to execute rich queries and transformations on the server (potentially scaled out across shards). While normal queries leverage documents in the exact structure, aggregation (similar to map-reduce) is much more flexible. It can transform, group, and query data as well as act as a data pipeline on the server. In this lesson, you will

Day 4

Server administration for developers

Replication

Sharding

MongoDB is a high performance database even in single-server mode. However, to truly leverage MongoDB’s performance potential, you will need to use sharding. This technique allows you to run a cluster of MongoDB servers working in concert to each hold some portion of the data and share some portion of the queries. It is sharding that gives MongoDB the ability to scale horizontally on commodity hardware. This lesson will show you how to configure and monitor sharding and then connect to it from your application.

Security and permissions

Security and data go hand-in-hand. You will learn how to enable security in MongoDB. We will explore how to create and manage user accounts and how to grant and revoke roles to users. You will see that users can be database-wide or server-wide users and we will discuss how to create and manage both. You will learn about basic auditing in MongoDB and how to implement practices which enhance security for MongoDB. Finally, we’ll end this lesson by exploring major security features coming in the next version of the server.
learn to choose between aggregation and queries.

Further Information:
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