How To Design Better Software Using FDD
Certified FDD Workshop
Created by the inventor of FDD and co-author of the Color Modeling book - Jeff De Luca

This workshop teaches you how to build better object models and how to do better requirements analysis.

It uses the “Modeling in Color” approach described in the best-selling book Java Modeling in Color with UML.

By using colors that represent archetypes, you'll automatically know the typical responsibilities of every class: its attributes, methods, associations and interactions. You'll then develop color building blocks that will help build better object models.

There are no computers used in this workshop; we will model using Post-It notes, pens, and paper.

We'll begin with the theory and then iterate through modeling examples, each time letting you practice more of the art of object modeling.

We will be using a learn-by-example technique that drives home the lessons on how to build better object models.

You will learn the minimum entry criteria for modeling and the tangible artifacts produced.

You will also gain insights into modeling as a requirements analysis and project start-up activity by experiencing a cut-down version of it.

You will learn, by example, the nature and quality of the discussions that take place, the high quality requirements analysis that take place, the dynamics of collaborative modeling with domain experts, and the context that a domain model establishes for a project.

You will learn how to model the domain, rather than the ad-hoc functional requirements of whatever today’s problem happens to be, and why that leads to systems that are more flexible and sustainable.

The FDD “Develop an Overall Model” process provides the structure for modeling in teams. You will learn tips, techniques, and strategies for running this process effectively within your own projects.
Modeling In Teams
Multiple Perspectives of the Domain

Modeling comprises high-level design, as well as requirements gathering, analysis, and documentation.

Modeling is also establishing a clear project target, breaking things down into smaller pieces, team building, and having fun!

We model in teams composed of developers and domain experts. A domain expert is someone that can provide facts about the business domain.

By the active participation of multiple domain experts, we get multiple perspectives of the domain. The same is true with the developers; they have their own experiences and favourite patterns. From the domain experts we get multiple perspectives of the domain and then from the developers we get multiple perspectives of our understanding of the domain and how to capture it.

We will break into teams of 3-6 people and learn a bit about working in teams and maintaining equal participation.

You’ll work within your teams, and then present your results to the other teams. While working in teams, your instructor is moving around the teams and listening to the conversations. As appropriate, your instructor will ask guiding questions to help steer you, and from the team conversations the instructor will dynamically determine what the next iteration should be.

That is, the workshop labs are highly dynamic and are tuned to each group as we teach the workshop. The iterations are based on where your team is currently strong and where your team may not yet have mastered a concept.

“It is a myth that you can produce a domain model directly from the requirements. Requirements define scope. A domain model is derived from facts about the business domain within the scope of the requirements.”
Phil Bradley

Workshop Syllabus

Icebreaker and Team Topics
The Object Oriented Paradigm
- The World According To Objects
- What Are Objects?
- Why Objects?
- The Paradigm Shift
- Defining Object Oriented
- Smart Object Oriented
The Subset of UML Notation that is Necessary
Hands on lab #1
Hands on lab #2
Modeling in Color with Archetypes
- What is an Archetype?
- The Four Archetypes
- Why Color?
- The Four Archetypes in Color
- What’s the Color and the Archetype
- The Archetypal Domain Shape
- Interactions
- Component Connectivity
Hands on labs #3 to #10

Learn By Example
Working in teams under the direction of experienced instructors that are practitioners; not junior announcers.
Just The Facts
Frequently Asked Questions

How Many People Can Attend?
The minimum number of attendees is six. There is no maximum number of attendees, but here are some guidelines and considerations.

The workshop runs best with up to fifteen attendees (three teams of five people each) and can run at up to twenty-four (four teams of six people each). Variations in numbers involve compromise; contact us to discuss. We have run modeling labs with sixty-five people, so we’re sure we can handle your case.

What Type Of Room Is Best?
All private workshops are run at your location. The room should not be a typical classroom or training room layout. That is, you don’t want fixed rows of desks.

A long conference table in the middle of the room works well, as does tables organised in a “U” shape. Good natural lighting is ideal, and the workshop needs plenty of open wall space for the models.

What Equipment Is Needed?
Attendees do not require a computer of any kind. The modeling is done with Post-It Notes, flip-chart paper, markers, masking tape, and a soft toy! Contact us for the details of these items and their amounts based on the size of your workshop.

How To Book
E-mail Susan Brown susanb@nebulon.com
Or visit www.nebulon.com for more details including contact information.

“...brings a new dimension to the effective use of the UML by showing you how to apply archetypes in color to enrich the content of your models.”
Grady Booch

“Without any doubt it has forced me to re-examine my understanding of OO and how to properly architect systems.”
Mark Lesk, Associate Director,
Wyeth Pharmaceuticals