

Advanced DAX for Reporting

2 weeks Online Pre-work | 2 Days Classroom | Digital Certificate



Overview

DAX is a truly a wonderful language that quickly solves common business data analytics issues like calculating variance over multiple time periods, budget, new customer analysis etc

DAX is the language for Power Pivot in Excel, SQL Server Analysis Service and Power BI through their shared engine called Vertipaq.

Learning DAX is easy, but mastering concepts that reveal the full power of DAX may be frustrating if you don't get the solid background you need to truly understand how DAX works.

This course will share a unique framework for understanding and using DAX, making it so much easier to solve your business analysis challenges. You will cover basic DAX concepts in the online prework, while the classroom live labs runs through case study based examples driving home hard concepts like row context and filter context, materialised tables and more.

Are you ready to enhance decision making in your organisation with superior reporting and analytics with Advanced DAX? Then join us for our next course.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, participants will be able to

- Recall how the DAX engine works
- Distinguish between Row and Filter Context
- Identify when Context transition happens and how it affects your DAX Measures
- Utilise a methodology for identifying the general structure of DAX Patterns needed to solve real world problems
- Replicate common business metrics using DAX
- Write DAX code professionally using Variables and formatting
- Master Advanced time Intelligence Calculations in DAX

Online Pre-work

Introduction to DAX

- Before DAX
- Why we need DAX
- Quick Intro to Data Models
- How DAX Works, the Vertipaq Engine
- DAX Measures vs Calculated Columns
- Implicit Vs Explicit Measures
- Introduction to Evaluation Context
- Filter Context
- Row Context
- Introduction to the CALCULATE Function

A Simple Methodology for Working with DAX

- Building a Data Model
- The 3 Core DAX Measures
- Building your Anchor Measures in DAX
- Introduction to Time Intelligence Measures
- The need for a date table and how to build one in Power Query or DAX
- Building Time Intelligence Measures in DAX
- Building Variance Measures
- Review of DAX Function Categories
- Tips for Visualising your Reports

DAY 1

The Inspiration for the DAX Language

- The 3 Influencers of the DAX language
- Using DAX Functions inspired by Excel
- Using DAX functions inspired by SQL
- Using DAX functions inspired by MDX
- A Methodology for solving Problems with DAX

How to write DAX Properly

- Formatting your DAX code correctly
- Introduction to the VAR syntax
- Why use Variables
- Building Table Variables
- Advanced use of variables
- Understanding the Scope of Variables in DAX
- Learning DAX Code from Quick Measures

Row Context with FILTER and Aggregator Functions in DAX

- Selection Operations with the FILTER Function
- What are the Aggregator Functions
- Using Excel and SQL influences to understand Aggregator Functions
- Working with the X Functions
- Using the DISTINCTCOUNT Function

Mastering Filter Context Calculations in DAX

- What is the Filter context
- Measures, the DAX Super Power
- Understanding Filter Context Operations in DAX. (ALL, VALUES, TREATAS, KEEPFILTERS, etc)
- How DAX generates queries on the fly with its BI Query Functions and how to use them in real life examples (ROLLUP, SUMMARIZECOLUMNS etc)

Day 2

CALCULATE & Advanced Time Intelligence Functions

- The Power of the CALCULATE Function
- The concept of context transition and why all measure have an implicit CALCULATE
- The difference between Excel Date & time functions and Time Intelligence Functions
- Managing hidden date tables and DAX dot notation

Row context and Table Functions in DAX

- What are Table Functions
- Why you should think in SQL terms to understand Table functions
- Materialised vs unmaterialised Tables and DAX query performance
- Performing advanced reconciliation with Joins and set Functions in DAX. (GENERATE, UNION, EXCEPT etc)
- Using the TOPN Function
- Building a Dynamic Date Tables with DAX

Understanding Common DAX patterns for Business

- BOOLEAN Logic and the biggest misconceptions about how DAX works
- Solving grand total accuracy issues in DAX
- Interpreting and modifying Quick Measures
- Understanding common DAX Patterns for business
- Simplifying complex DAX calculations with Variables
- Avoiding Referential Integrity violations and the appended BLANK rows in Dimension tables
- A look at Data security and DAX



I feel very excited about the course. Now I know what DAX formula is, how I can prepare my data using 7 golden rules. I also know alot about visualisation of reports.

Olayinka Somuyiwa
FCMB

I have a better view when it comes to creative analytics and reporting of data. its feels really great to have scaled up my analytic skills.

Oladimeji Eniola
Dangote Group

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