

Pelican Web Site Generator Configuration

Pelican is a static web site generator. It is the tool we are using to maintain our static sites.

This document assumes we are using [venvwrapper](#) ¹.

Install Pelican

Do it within our python virtual environment. We named our environment *statsites*.

Activate it, and install Pelican

```
venv statsites
pip install pelican
```

Themes

In each of our pelicanconf.py configurations we select a theme for the given site. To get a collection of themes to choose from, we cloned as follows:

```
git clone --recursive https://github.com/getpelican/pelican-themes ${HOME}/pelican-themes
```

Site Theme Note

In our own sites we have made a few adjustments to the lightweight theme to suit our purpose. We maintain this derived theme and our web content under our git version control repository. Our pelicanconf-en.py configuration file has this reference.

```
THEME = u"/home/ubuntu/allrepos/mystatic_sites/derived-themes/lightweight-single-home-en"
```

Your site's theme will be for you to choose and/or modify.

Initialize Skeletal Site File System

Use 'pelican-quickstart' to generate initial static website content using pelican.

pelican-quickstart creates the a skeletal site generation file system beneath the current empty directory.

Afterwards you create .rst files in content/anyname directories as blog articles. Create .rst files in content/pages as blog pages.

Compilation

Generate the web site files once we have all our .rst source files. For this we only need to use the Makefile. The following will compile and emit all the web site content under output/ using pelican.

```
make html
```

You can review your results by invoking the output/index.html file.

1

We are using the package `venvwrapper` to simplify virtual environment management. That fact is assumed in this document. If you are not using it, you need to replace lines here such as: `"venv statsites"`, with lines such as `"source ${HOME}/.venv/statsites/bin/activate"`.