Report

What issues and problems did you notice with some of the previous websites?

While the original B63 website found at https://mathlab.utsc.utoronto.ca/bretscher/b63/index.html served it's purpose of being a place to organize and present information regarding the course and it's contents but it's design felt antiquated and the layout was disorganized with various deadend links as well as essentially useless pages

1. The links that take the user to different pages are inconsistent. E.g. When you click on the Calendar page, a new link called "new news" pops out, while if you click on any other page (except Discussion Board), the "new news" link transforms into "news".
2. It is difficult to tell which page the user is currently on for some pages due to the relatively small font of the title, the title is also somewhat separate from the content.
3. The website has a large chunk of unused space on the right and side and the bottom of the screen, which looks quite ugly.
4. The "test" link takes users to an empty page
5. The "links" link takes users to a page that briefly explains how to use LaTeX; "links" is not a helpful title for a page discussing how to use LaTeX, and the information on this page could also have easily fit within a page such as assignments, where it would also be relevant information
6. It wasn't obvious whether a link would lead you off of the website

How did you address these issues in your redesigned course website?

1. We simply put every page onto the main page, and allowed access by scrolling or by clicking a button on the navigation bar. This means that the layout on each page stays consistent, and given the extensive commenting in the source files, they can also be easily edited as needed.
2. We moved the title of the page closer to the content and centered everything on the screen so that it's really obvious what the user is looking at
3. We filled up the entire page and all unused blank spaces serve an aesthetic purpose while also helping separate sections of the page(s)
4. We removed the "test" link as it wasn't used
5. The LaTeX section was moved to the assignments section and the original section is removed
6. Links to lead away from the site and internal links are distinguished by how they are presented

What are some challenges that you and your team member faced? How did you go about addressing these challenges?

1. We were both relatively new to the idea of code sharing and collaborating on a project like this with coding, but we figured out some basics of GitHub with pushing and pulling code to a repository. We even figured out how to host a website on GitHub so that we could access it without needing to pull it every time we wanted to see a change the other made.
2. We had some disagreements about certain aspects of design like colour and such but we were able to resolve them by just having us choosing alternating colours.
3. We had some issues with formatting things to look nice but we just tried a few different ideas out and it all worked out.
4. We were also unable to decide on a font for the website to use so we shared screens and looked at some different fonts on google fonts and looked at images as well and we ended up settling on Trebuchet MS.