STUDENT COUNCIL WEBSITE

Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the degree of

BACHELOR OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

by

Aditya Maskare, 23102169

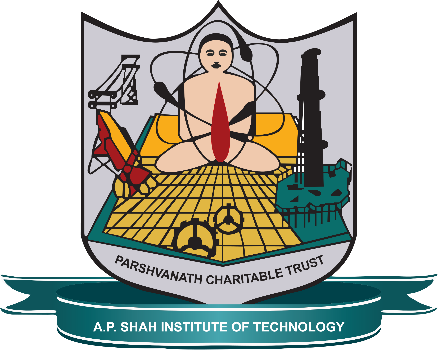
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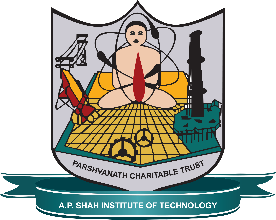
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(2024-2025)



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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project entitled “Student Council Website ” is a bonafide work of **“Hitesh Morye (23102202), Aditya Maskare(23102169), Gayatri Mahajan(23102009), Abhishek Mishra(23102180)”** submitted to the University of Mumbai in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of the degree of **Bachelor of Engineering** in **Computer Engineering**

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**Declaration**

We declare that this written submission represents my ideas in my own words. Where others' ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all academic honesty and integrity principles and have not misrepresented, fabricated, or falsified any idea/data/fact/source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will cause disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

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Date: 10/10/2024

**Abstract**

* **Background:** Student councils play a crucial role in enhancing student engagement and representing their interests within academic institutions. However, many colleges lack effective communication platforms for these councils.
* **Aim:** This report aims to present the development and implementation of a dedicated website for the student council at A. P. Shah Institute of Technology, intended to streamline communication and promote student involvement.
* **Method:** The website was designed using HTML,CSS and Javascript (Frontend) incorporating features such as event calendars, feedback forms, and resource sharing. A survey was conducted among students to assess their needs and preferences.
* **Conclusion:** The student council website significantly enhanced communication between the council and the student body, fostering greater engagement and participation in campus activities. Future improvements will focus on expanding functionality based on user feedback.

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ABBREVIATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HTML | *Hypertext Markup Language* |
| CSS  JS | *Cascading Style Sheets*  *Javascript* |
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**Introduction**

In recent years, student councils in higher education have evolved from traditional governance bodies into vital facilitators of student engagement and empowerment. Effective communication channels between students and administration are crucial, as research shows that well-informed students are more likely to participate in campus life and foster a positive college environment (Wang, 2019). However, many colleges still lack comprehensive online resources to support student councils effectively.

The development of a dedicated Student Council website presents an opportunity to enhance communication and engagement. An effective online presence can streamline information dissemination and foster community among students (Johnson & Adams, 2021). Features like feedback forms and forums empower students to voice their opinions, strengthening the democratic processes within the council.

Despite their potential, many existing student council websites remain underutilized or poorly maintained, leading to disconnects with the student body. Our project aims to create a user-friendly platform that promotes transparency and encourages participation through features such as event calendars and interactive forums. By leveraging digital tools, this initiative will enhance student governance and serve as a model for other colleges looking to improve council effectiveness.

**Literature Survey**

The role of student councils in higher education institutions has evolved significantly, moving from mere representation to becoming essential agents of student engagement and empowerment. According to L. Wang, student councils serve as critical links between students and administration, advocating for student interests while promoting leadership and civic responsibility [1]. This transformation underscores the need for effective communication channels, particularly through digital platforms, to facilitate these roles.

Digital communication platforms have become indispensable in enhancing student engagement. Research by R. Johnson and S. Adams demonstrates that a well-structured online presence can improve information dissemination and community building among students [2]. They argue that effective websites provide essential resources and act as interactive forums for students, thus fostering a sense of belonging and involvement in campus activities. Furthermore, T. Smith et al. highlight the importance of feedback mechanisms and discussion forums, which encourage students to express their opinions and contribute to governance processes [3].

Despite the acknowledged benefits, many existing student council websites remain underutilized and ineffective. A study by M. Garcia points out that a significant number of these platforms suffer from outdated information and poor design, leading to a disconnect between councils and the student body [4]. This disconnect is echoed in research by D. Thompson, who emphasizes the need for regular updates and user-friendly interfaces to keep students informed and engaged [5]. Their findings suggest that when websites do not meet user needs, student participation and satisfaction significantly decrease.

User experience and accessibility are critical factors in the design of student council websites. A study by A. Patel and Y. Zhang emphasizes the significance of user-centered design, noting that websites must cater to diverse user groups to be effective [6]. Features such as mobile compatibility, intuitive navigation, and clear content presentation are vital for enhancing usability. These principles are supported by T. Brown et al., who found that students are more likely to engage with online platforms that are easy to navigate and aesthetically pleasing [7].

The impact of effective online platforms on student engagement is well-documented. P. Nguyen's research indicates that students who actively participate in digital platforms are more likely to attend events and engage with their councils [8]. This relationship suggests that by developing an engaging website, student councils can cultivate a more vibrant campus culture. Additionally, R. Garcia et al. argue that interactive features such as polls and surveys can further enhance student involvement by providing opportunities for feedback and participation [9].

However, the development of such platforms is not without challenges. Research by K. Davis identifies common pitfalls in web development for student organizations, including lack of technical expertise and inadequate funding [10]. Addressing these challenges requires collaboration between student councils and IT departments to ensure that the website meets the needs of both students and administrators.

Moreover, successful case studies, such as the University of California’s student council website, demonstrate how well-executed digital platforms can lead to increased engagement and satisfaction among students [11]. These examples highlight the potential benefits of investing in robust online resources for student governance.

In short,

In conclusion, the literature reveals a pressing need for improved digital platforms to enhance student council effectiveness. By addressing existing shortcomings and leveraging user-centered design principles, the proposed Student Council website aims to create a more engaging and informative experience for students. This project not only contributes to the body of knowledge on student governance but also serves as a model for other institutions seeking to enhance their online presence.

**The limitation of the Existing system**

Many college and university student council websites face critical limitations that hinder their effectiveness. Key issues include a lack of user-centric design, resulting in poor navigation and accessibility, particularly for mobile users, despite over 60% of students preferring mobile devices for campus activities. Additionally, outdated content and infrequent updates lead to frustration and disengagement among students, as event calendars often lack real-time information.

Current websites also feature limited interactivity, with underutilized tools like contact forms and discussion boards, while neglecting more engaging elements like polls and surveys that encourage student participation. Furthermore, these platforms typically operate in isolation, failing to connect students with essential academic and support resources, resulting in a fragmented user experience.

To address these gaps, this project aims to develop a robust Student Council website that prioritizes accessibility and engagement. Key features will include mobile optimization, real-time updates, and enhanced interactive elements to foster communication. By integrating various campus resources and focusing on user-centered design, the initiative seeks to create a model for effective student governance that promotes community and active participation.

In summary, the project will enhance usability, content relevance, interactivity, and integration, contributing to a more engaged and informed campus community.

**Problem Statement, Objectives, and Scope**

**Problem Statement**

The college's student council currently lacks an effective online platform, hindering communication and engagement with the student body. A dedicated web page is needed to address the following issues:

* Dispersed information about council activities and events
* Limited student participation in council decisions
* Insufficient visibility of council members and their roles
* Difficulty accessing important documents and resources
* Developing a comprehensive web page will centralize information, facilitate student involvement, and enhance transparency, ultimately fostering a more connected and informed campus community.

**Objectives**

1. **Enhance User Experience:**
   * Design a user-friendly interface that prioritizes ease of navigation and accessibility, particularly for mobile users.
2. **Improve Communication:**
   * Create a centralized platform for announcements, updates, and events to keep students informed and engaged.
3. **Facilitate Interaction:**
   * Integrate interactive features such as forums, polls, and feedback forms to encourage student participation and input in governance.
4. **Ensure Timely Updates:**
   * Implement a system for real-time updates on events, meetings, and council activities to maintain current and relevant content.
5. **Promote Resource Integration:**
   * Provide links to other campus resources and services, ensuring students have easy access to academic, mental health, and extracurricular support.
6. **Foster Community Engagement:**
   * Develop features that encourage students to participate in discussions, share ideas, and collaborate on initiatives, enhancing the sense of community.

**Scope**

1. **Target Audience:**
   * The website will primarily serve the student body of the college, including current students, prospective students, and alumni.
2. **Content Management:**
   * The platform will include sections for event calendars, council member profiles, announcements, and resource links, managed by the student council.
3. **Technical Features:**
   * The project will focus on implementing mobile-friendly design, content management systems (CMS) for easy updates, and secure user interaction features.
4. **Integration with Existing Systems:**
   * Collaborate with IT departments to ensure seamless integration with other campus systems and resources, such as learning management systems (LMS) and student services.
5. **Pilot Testing:**
   * Conduct user testing with a sample group of students to gather feedback on usability and functionality before full deployment.

**Proposed System**

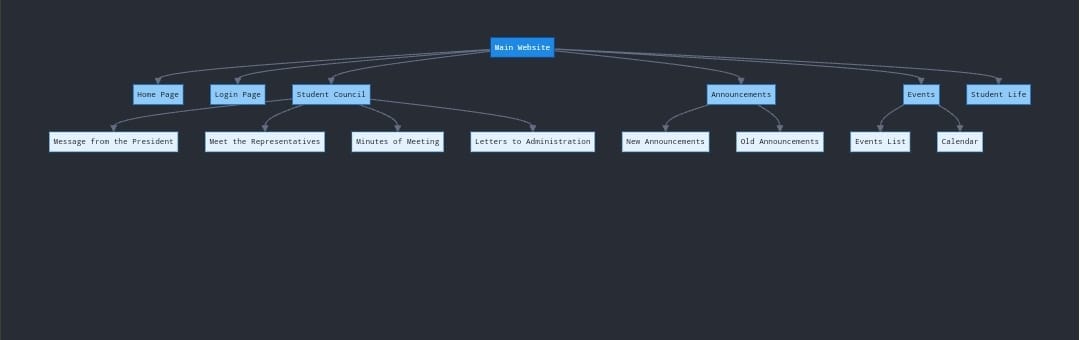


Fig 1.1

**Experimental Setup**

* HTML-

It is important because it:

1. **Structures Content**: Defines the layout and organization of web pages.
2. **Enhances Accessibility**: Makes content accessible for users with disabilities.
3. **Boosts SEO**: Helps search engines index and rank web pages.
4. **Ensures Compatibility**: Works across all web browsers and devices.
5. **Supports Other Technologies**: Serves as a foundation for CSS and JavaScript.
6. **Facilitates Content Management**: Used in many CMS platforms.
7. **Is Easy to Learn**: Accessible for beginners.
8. **Integrates with Frameworks**: Essential for modern web development frameworks.

In short, HTML is the backbone of the web, enabling the creation and organization of content effectively.

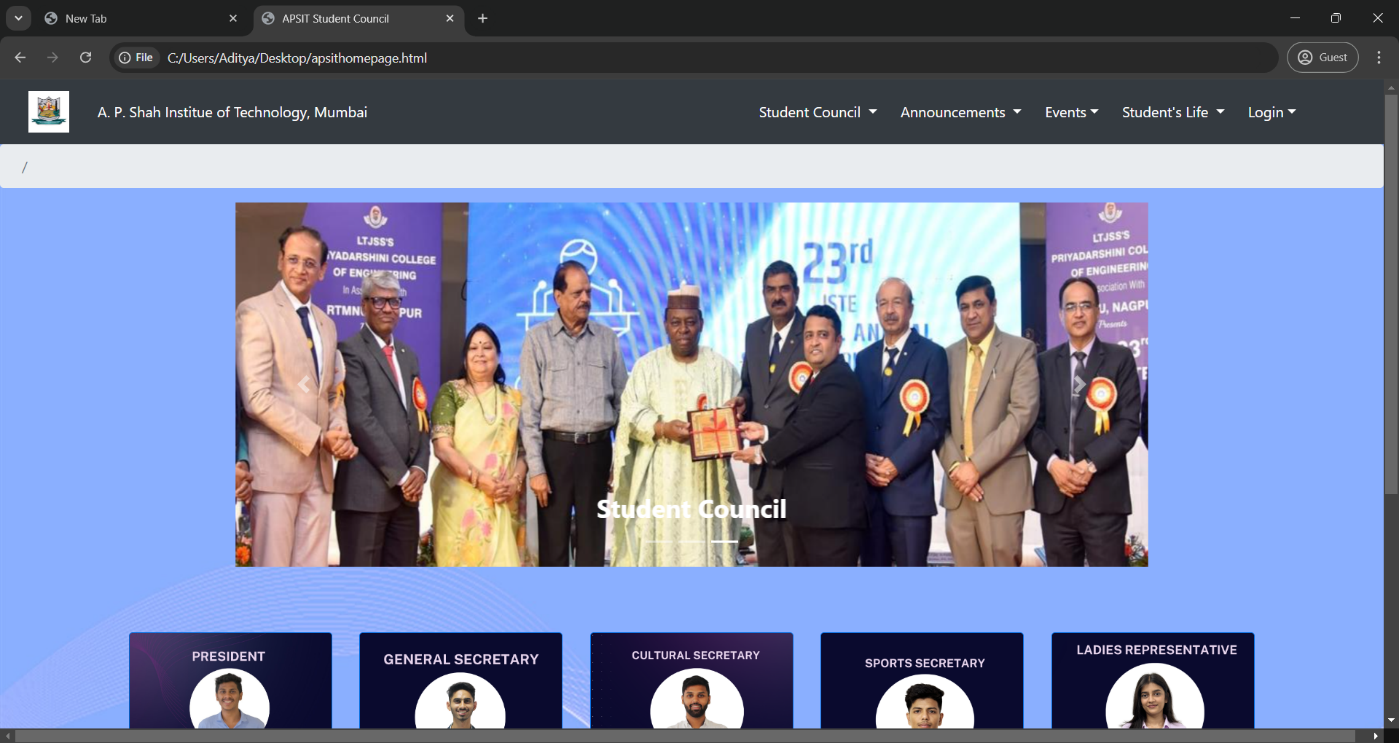
* CSS-

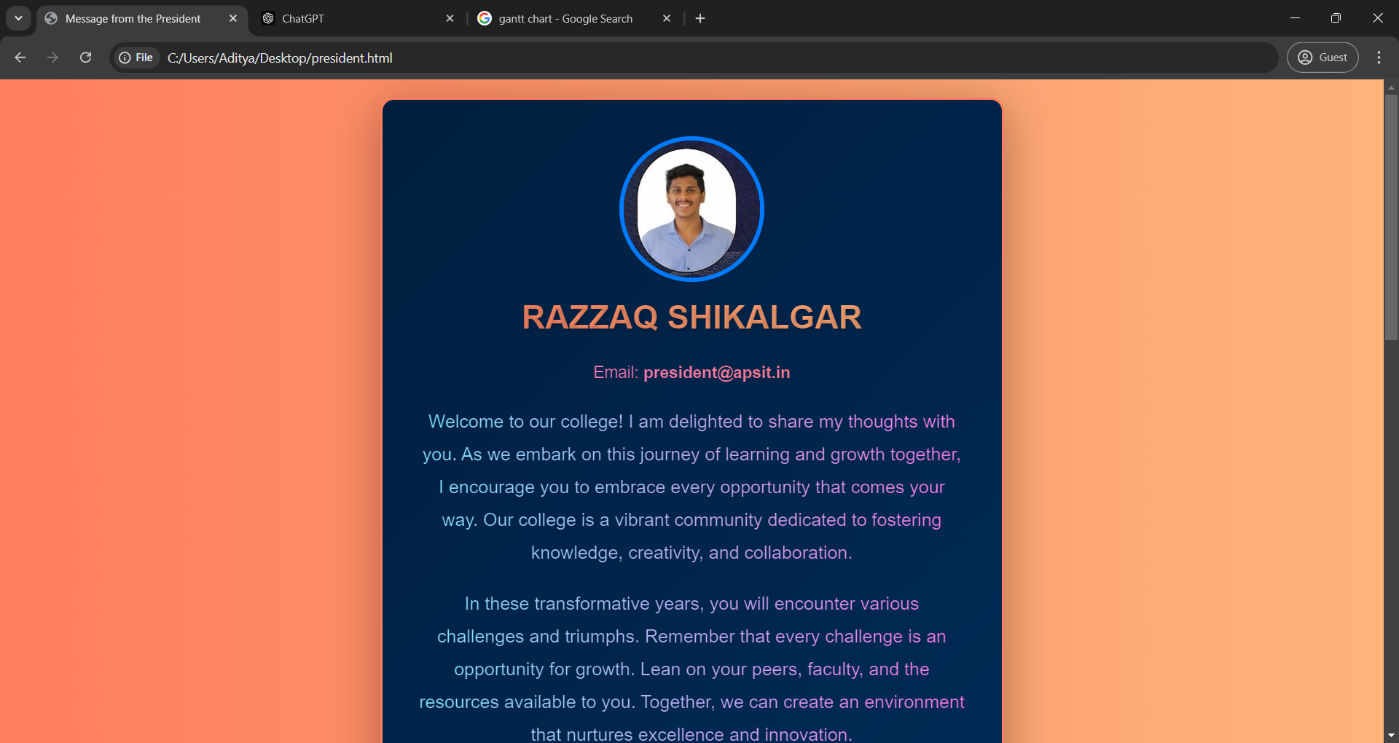
CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) is important because it:

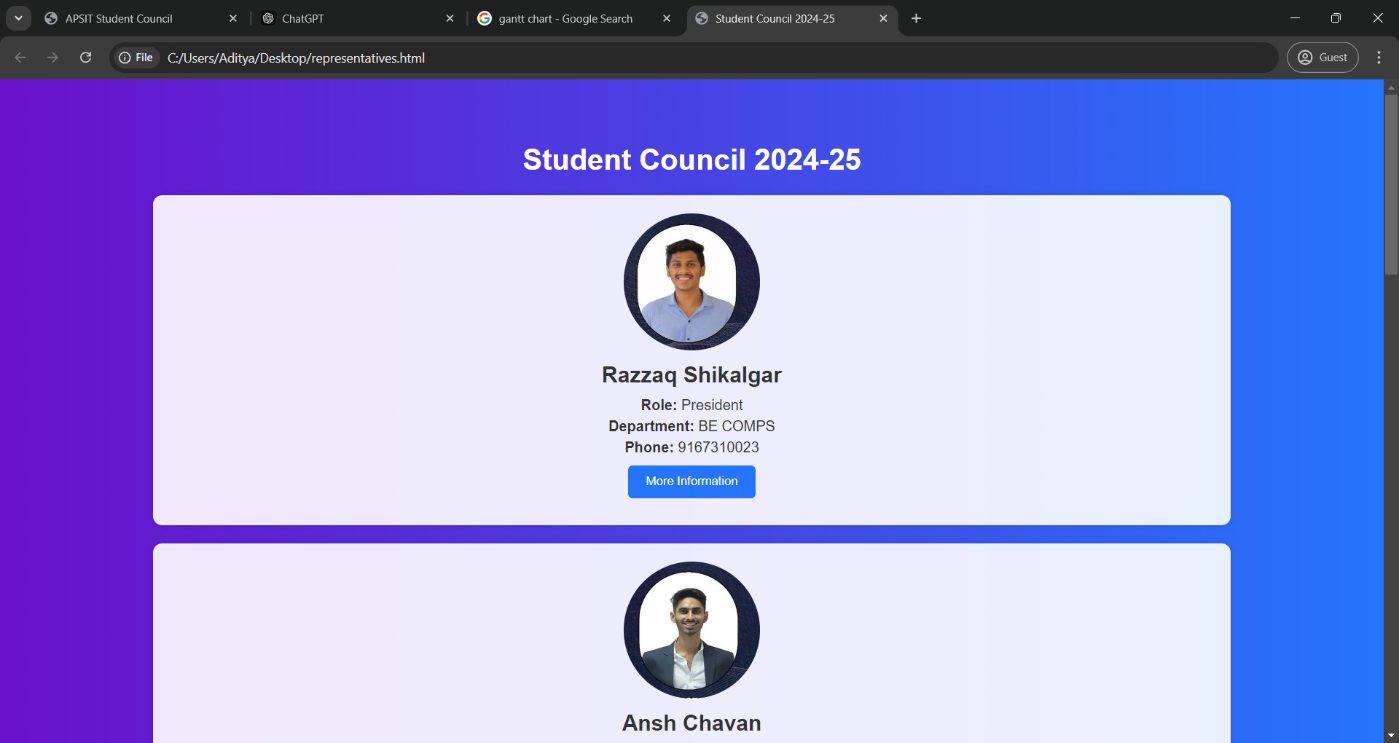
1. **Styles Content**: Controls the appearance of HTML elements, including colors, fonts, and layouts.
2. **Enhances User Experience**: Improves visual aesthetics and readability, making sites more appealing.
3. **Enables Responsive Design**: Allows websites to adapt to different screen sizes and devices.
4. **Separation of Concerns**: Keeps content (HTML) and presentation (CSS) separate, making maintenance easier.
5. **Saves Time**: Styles can be reused across multiple pages, reducing redundancy.
6. **Improves Load Times**: Efficient CSS can reduce the amount of HTML code, speeding up page load times.
7. **Supports Animation**: Enables dynamic effects and transitions to engage users.
8. **Compatibility**: Works across all browsers, ensuring consistent design.

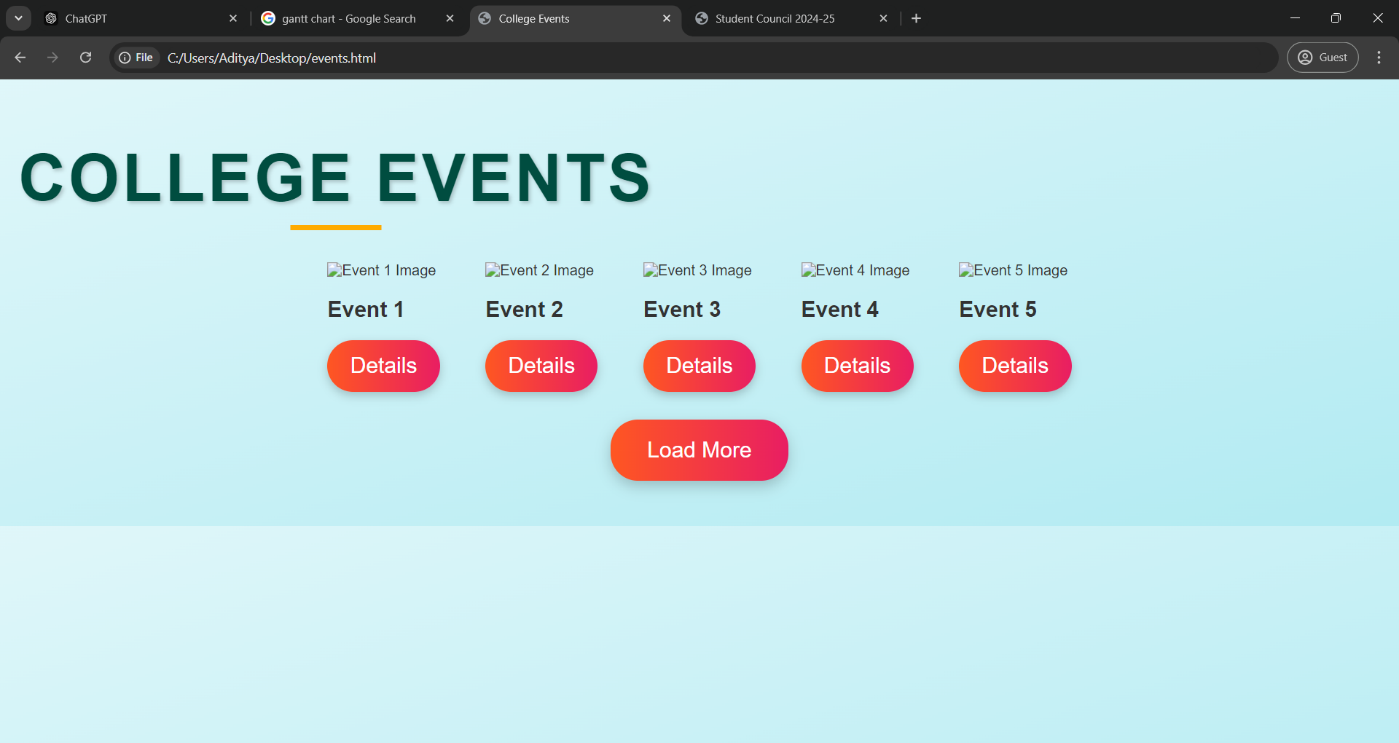
In summary, CSS is essential for creating visually attractive, user-friendly, and responsive web designs.

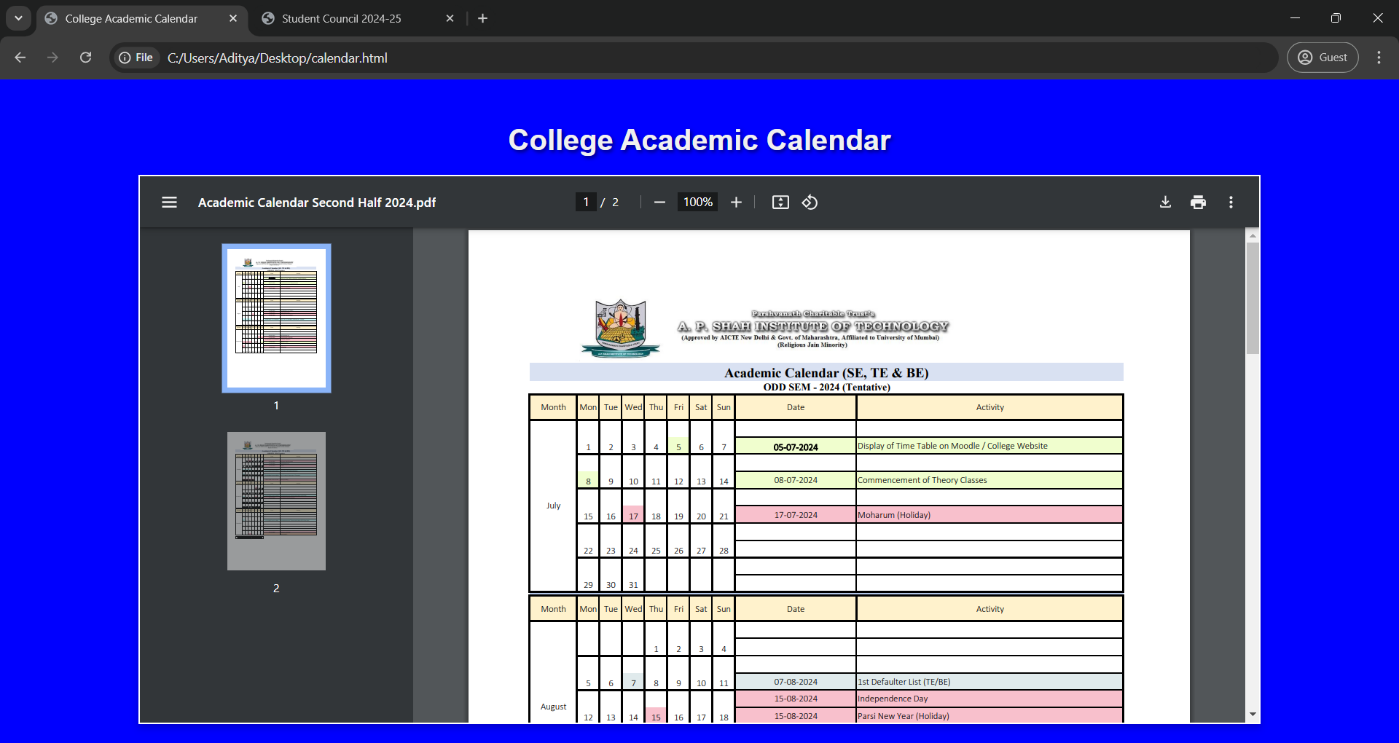
**Implementation (Screenshots of the results achieved)**

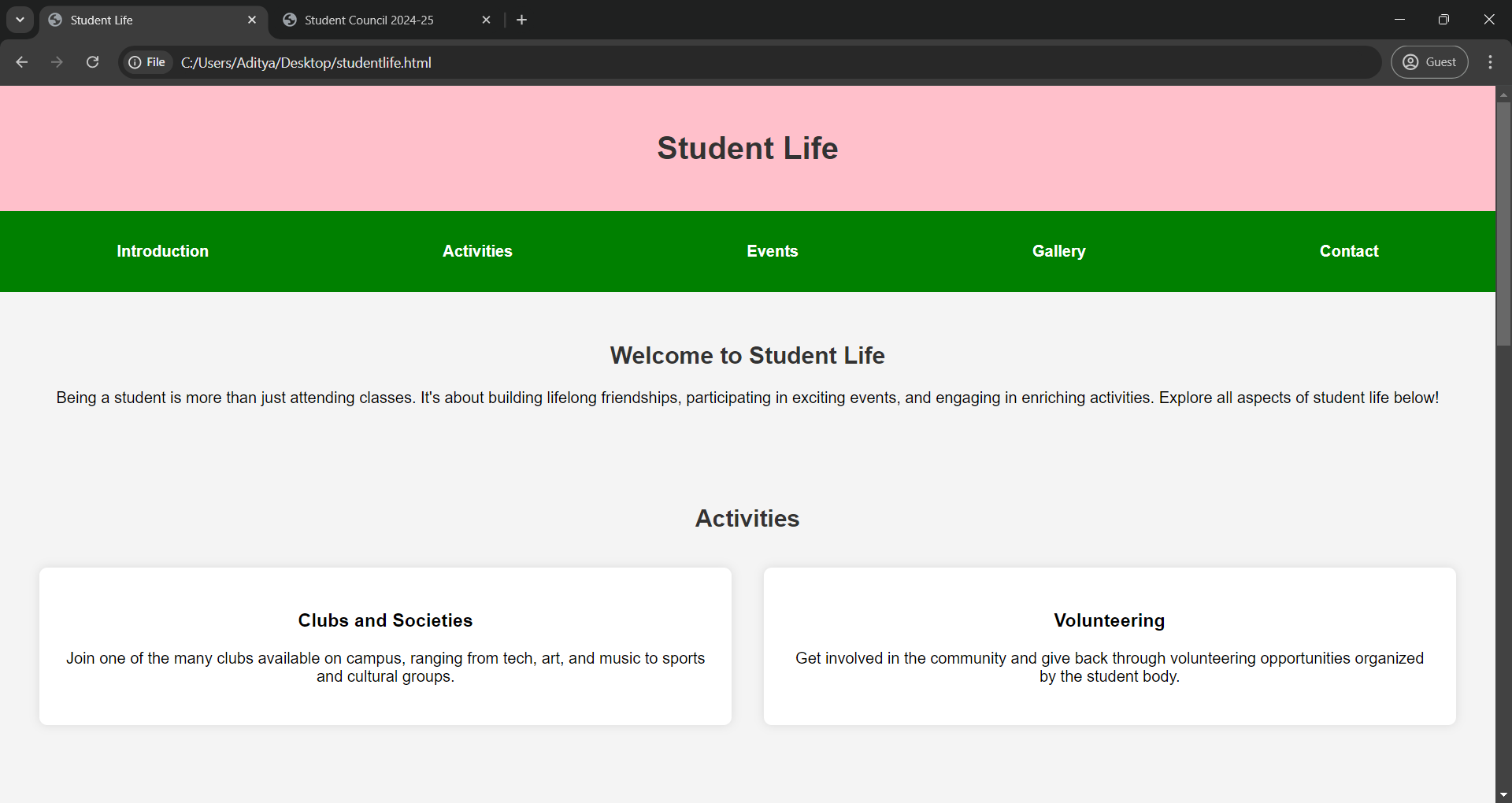












SCOPE-

* Student Engagement :

Organize and promote campus events, clubs, and activities to engage the student body.

* Student Representation :

Serve as the liaison between students and faculty/administration to address concerns.

* Student Wellness :

Collaborate with on-campus resources to support the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of students.

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