**Marywood University Math & Computer Science**

**Department Web Page**

Alexis Palys

CS 490 Capstone

December 3rd

**Purpose & Motivation**

My purpose behind this project was to provide a website that prospective and current students may use in order to gain specific information about the Marywood University Mathematics and Computer Science department. This information includes a look at the faculty and staff, an overview of the courses, facts about the major and what you can do with a degree in computer science/mathematics/information security, and local job and internship opportunities. I also wanted to make this website as a project that I can reference back to for my own future opportunities. Web development is an area of Computer Science that I really enjoy, and it would be great to have a project to show employers that I have practical experience in this area.

**Overview**

As stated earlier, the project I have chosen to complete is a web page made specifically for the Marywood University Computer Science and Mathematics Department. The home page will present what degrees the department has to offer along with the Twitter and Facebook accounts for Marywood University that can be found at the bottom of the page, in the footer section. This website also includes important information regarding the subject areas, such as course descriptions and each course's corresponding credits. There is also a section where the user can suggest courses to be added to the curriculum. Other information regarding faculty and staff are also incorporated in a directory, along with a biography section for several faculty members. Lastly, there is generalized information pertaining to the world of computer science, mathematics and information security, along with opportunities or listings for local internships and jobs.

**Goals**

I wanted to create a more cohesive and user friendly website that could better portray the department and possibly create more interest in the major. There were several smaller goals I needed to fulfill in order to create a more dynamic website. This included creating a database and authentication piece, displaying photos and images, buttons, and areas where I presented general information. Outside of the physical project I am turning in, I had some personal goals as well. By constructing my own website, I gave myself practical experience in the area of the computer science field that I wish to pursue a career in after graduation. Additionally, this will be a relevant project I can include in my resume. Throughout the process of creating this website I also reviewed and learned new information, which is vital to staying up to date in this field.

**Technology & Implementation**

In order to create my dynamic website, I used a variety of languages, including Javascript, HTML, CSS, and PHP. All of my written code is stored on Github where I can access and save my work, but also where my progress will be available to the public. To help me with my CSS and Javascript, I utilized Bootstrap (an open-source framework) in the front-end of my web development. I wanted to make this website look visually appealing, but also cohesive to what is already established from the area on Marywood’s website. I also employed a web server using software with PHP and MySQL to allow for databases and other items to be included. Lastly, by making this website versatile, both current and prospective students can take advantage of the resources. I implemented an authentication item- login and registration area.