

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

- Most of the websites do not respond to screen size changes. Hence, the mobile version of the website is unusable as most of the objects are too small for the mobile screen.
- We believe some of the UIs could be more appealing; there is too much text without appropriate separation or any graphics that break up the text.
- Some of the websites don't have any website footers.
- Some of the websites combine everything into one page, which, in our opinion, clutters the main page.
- In most of the websites, any external links are opened in the current tab, which makes it hard to access both sites at the same time.

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

We used media queries on our CSS file to make our website more responsive by handling different website views on different sizes of devices, such as mobile phones and computers.

We separated the chunks of text into clearly separated sections with line breaks for each section title, which makes the content less cluttered. We also added some graphics that are related to the text and set the website color palette to UofT Blue(#25355A) and Boundless Blue(#007FA3), as our website is made for a course offered by the University of Toronto. We also improved the visuals of the UI so that it is more pleasing to the eyes and added some interactive objects that respond to mouse hovers.

We used target = “_blank” to make sure that every external link, such as MarkUs and Piazza, will open in a new tab so that the user can get back to the initial website while opening the external link at the same time.

We also added a “Back to Top” button so users can easily go to the top of the page while scrolling.

We added a left navigation bar which is intended to be the main means of navigating through the website. The links on the navigation bar are all responsive to mouse hover and give an indication of when the page the link corresponds to is displayed.

We also added a footer with all the navigation links so the user has more options to navigate through the website.

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

Our main challenge was time management and dividing tasks among team members. We had to figure out an effective solution to be able to work together on this project effectively and efficiently.

These are some of the tools we used to address these challenges:

Git and GitHub. Although this wasn't taught in the class, we think this was a very useful tool to assist us in collaborating effectively. Before starting the project, we spent some time setting up our Git and GitHub and creating a repository. We learned how to set up a remote in our directory, add, commit, pull, and push any changes we made to the GitHub repository so we can easily access the latest version of the project and see all changes made by other group members.

W3 validator. We used the W3 validator to make sure our HTML files satisfied the markup validity.