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CS 290 Final Design

Before Completion:

The app I am attempting to implement for my final project is a simple shopping website with a search bar. The shop will have 5 items for sale, with item data stored in individual files. When the user searches for an item, it will attempt to match it with a file name in a directory. If the item exists, it will bring up a simple page with the price and an “add to cart” button. When it is added to the cart, the number of items in the cart will increase and the cost displayed nearby will increase as well. Due to time constraints, I will not implement a way to actually “purchase” the items in code and will not be saved between sessions.

The main page will be a standard landing page. This page will load every item to display in a line, and the search bar will search for a particular item. When the user inputs a value to search for, it will attempt to match it with items loaded from the files.

After completion:

Some changes were made. First of all, there is no way to view what items are in the cart or dump it, but the number of items is shown in the corner.

In addition, instead of having many files, all items are stored in a single file.

Re-review Assignment 0:

OSU COE:

Still an absolute mess. Most of the issue doesn't come with how the website is coded but how many tabs and consecutive pages things are behind. Therefore, my opinion really hasn't changed. If anything, I now realize that its easier to make a website made simply than a waterfall of pages.

LBCC Website:

One thing I didn't mention in my first assignment is that much of the content is squashed into the center. Knowing how hard it is to make a good website layout I can understand why the current system was chosen. It still doesn't make it better than the old website, but it's miles beyond the OSU COE website.

CNN:

Given how often CNN has to update its website, it's a miracle that it looks better than any other news site on the internet, at least in my opinion. My already-high opinion has gone up even more about it.

Every subject is well-labeled and its very easy to figure out where information is on the website.

Amazon:

My one criticism that stands out is still to fix the top bar to the top of the page. It doesn't have the search bar on it, but even my final project has a moving top bar. There also is just so much clutter, I know the website is trying to sell me stuff but come on, it can sometimes be hard to find specific things.

One thing that I do want to point out is the vast number of dropdowns is very nice, knowing how hard those could be now makes me feel a bit better about the website.

Youtube:

As with CNN, everything is still placed well on the webpage. Now knowing what I know about website design, making the bar on the left side of the page a bit bigger might be better, though I am looking at the website in 1440p, so it might be better at a lower resolution. I don't know why I feel this way now, but it might be that I am just more perceptive about website design now.

Reviewing my projects:

A1:

My first project had almost no CSS, so it looks very bare bones. Images aren't scaled correctly to be similar sizes, so if I were to do it again I would add more CSS to make it look less flat and scale the image sizes so they are all equal.

A2:

More CSS/html here, but I didn't know how to make the bar reach all the way to the corners on the top of the screen, so it just sits there looking awkwardly. Overall, this is the only change I would make because the page looks OK here.

A4:

For a basic web calculator, everything is placed very well! I didn't include any CSS in this project so it looks very flat and bland, so adding some to the background and buttons might be nice. The project is cool but much of the math is broken behind the scenes, so it sometimes functions oddly.

A5:

As with the previous project, this was mostly a demonstration, this time of server functionality. The project functions mostly correctly, with some crashes if the search query is large enough. As before, more CSS, still looks pretty flat.