Chris Ryan

Module 7

As a relatively seasoned Internet user, going into the wireframe design activity I felt well prepared. A few years ago I used to make websites for fun on platforms such as Weebly and Tumblr, so I knew the basis of how I would want to map my site and its basic design.

I put a lot of time and effort into my initial wireframes, which made my design compositions much easier to create. I knew that I wanted my header and sidebar to stay the same regardless of the location on my website, and I made my website around that thought-process. The only thing I wanted different on the individual pages was the content of the page, based on theme. Within my professional pages I wanted text, to display items such as my resumé. Within my entertainment-based pages I wanted video, displaying my acting reel and comedy routines. And lastly, within my contact and personal pages I wanted a structure based around pictures and text, so I can display the different ways in which someone would be able to contact me.

Using all of this, and my newly selected color palette and typography choices, I started the creation of my design compositions. As I am not very good with graphic software such as Photoshop, this proved to be more difficult. However, after putting some time in I was able to create all of my compositions.

I had Lizzie and Katherine critique my designs, so I could know what their opinions were. Their main critiques were in the spacing of my sites different elements. From this I went back and lined everything up accordingly. However, besides this, their reviews were relatively positive. They liked my color choices, typography, and overall site concept. I attribute this to working so hard on my initial wireframes, and sharing those designs with Lizzie and Katherine for critique as well.

I then went on to critique both Lizzie and Katherine's designs. From the start it was clear that we all have very different design aesthetics. That being said, we are all going into different fields, so all of these differences have to be taken with a grain of salt. Their designs were a bit more, well, girly. Though this is to be expected, as they are girls, I personally don't enjoy serif fonts or the color pink to be used in web design. My only other critique of their websites was to create more clean lines to separate elements, as there was a lack of proper boarders.

Though we are all creating websites for different fields of work, I do believe that the peer review process was beneficial for all. Through this we were able to bounce ideas off each other, and see what works and what doesn't. As I move forward with this project I will keep in the back of my mind what both Lizzie and Katherine suggested, as I know it will only benefit me.