**Homework 3: Styling Documentation – Ethan Kang (Part 1 Website)**

Website Link: <https://e05k.github.io/ds4200_hw3_ethankang/>

**Styling and Customizations:**

1. Overview

For my personal website, I applied a minimalist and clean layout that focuses on readability and visual balance. I used one external stylesheet (styles.css) to ensure consistent styling across all pages. The design emphasizes centered content, soft color tones, and clear navigation to make the site feel cohesive and professional. The website is divided into three main pages: index.html (Home/About), topic.html (Project), and contact.html (Contact). Each page shares the same header, navigation bar, and footer layout to maintain a unified structure and user experience.

1. General Styling Choices

For my typography, I used a simple yet effective font family of Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif, which gives a clean, modern look and ensures compatibility across browsers. The background color is set to **beige**, which provides a neutral, warm tone that contrasts well with darker text. The primary text color is #222, chosen for accessibility and a softer appearance compared to pure black. Accent colors include #0056b3 for navigation hover and link effects, and #800000 for hero titles to add depth and emphasis. I also implemented a basic CSS reset (margin: 0; padding: 0; box-sizing: border-box;) to remove browser defaults and ensure consistent spacing throughout the site.

1. Layout Elements

The layout design prioritizes centered and structured content. The header section has a light gray background (#f7f7f7) with a subtle border to separate it visually from the rest of the page. Navigation links are displayed horizontally within a light blue bar (#e6eef6), and each link changes to a deeper blue (#0056b3) on hover to indicate interactivity.

The main container for each page is centered using margin: 30px auto; and restricted to a maximum width of 900 pixels, allowing for an optimal reading experience on both small and large screens. I also included white “card” sections with a soft box-shadow and rounded corners (border-radius: 10px;) to create separation between different content blocks. Images are centered on each page, set to 80% of the container width, and given rounded edges to match the soft, modern theme.

1. Typography

I used a consistent hierarchy for headings and body text. All headings (h1, h2, h3) are center-aligned to create symmetry, while paragraphs (p) have extra line spacing and bottom margins for readability. Lists (ul and li) maintain structure with padding-left: 40px and use disc bullets for clarity. Text alignment and spacing were adjusted to make each section flow naturally across devices.

1. Footer

The footer remains consistent across all pages and includes simple text and link styling. It features a light gray top border (1px solid #ccc) to visually separate it from the content above. The footer text is center-aligned and slightly muted in color (#555) to avoid distraction from the main content. Links inside the footer include a hover effect with underlining for accessibility and visibility.

1. Design Intext

The overall design intent was to build a website that feels clean, organized, and approachable. I wanted to highlight the written and visual content without unnecessary decoration. By using a warm beige background, modern sans-serif typography, and subtle interactive effects, the site maintains a professional look while staying user-friendly. The consistent spacing, rounded corners, and hover transitions all work together to create a polished, cohesive visual identity.

1. Files Used

* index.html – Home/About page
* topic.html – Project page
* contact.html – Contact page
* styles.css – External stylesheet used for all visual and layout styling