

In designing our website, we compared it to Anna Bretscher's website for CSCB20 (<http://www.utoronto.ca/~bretscher/b20/>) where we saw some problems that we thought we could improve on. These problems included a design which we did not find visually pleasing, a user experience that was not smooth, and some important information being hard to access.

The linked website boasted an asymmetrical design, with a border on the left and top edges, not even extending all the way to the right edge. Our website is framed on the top with a static navigation bar which moves with the user and with a regular footer at the bottom. We made use of whitespace on the left and right so the webpage would not go all the way to the edges. As well our webpage uses the full width of the browser window instead of remaining at a fixed width. This prevents excess whitespace on the sides as appears on the right of Anna's website on larger windows.

Another problem we had with the webpage was that navigation was sometimes not smooth which could be jarring to a user. When hovering over links, they change size and may end up snapping into new positions. This sudden change can look bad so our hover effects are simple fades over time into new colours. Another problem was that items on the navigation bar would change text or orders between pages. This inconsistency does not look good, so we ensured our navigation bar is consistent across all pages. The navigation bar on Anna's website also does not move with the user. This may require them to scroll back up to go to a different page. This is not required on our webpage as the navigation bar moves with the user, so they always have easy access to it.

The website that Anna had for CSCB20 also has the problem of some important links being harder to get to. To navigate to the syllabus, one must return all the way back to the home page. The syllabus isn't even in the "resources" section. Since the syllabus is so important, we included a direct link to the syllabus in the navigation bar. Similar applies for contact information

for the course instructors. Another example for this is the link to MarkUs. If a student was on a different page for reference (such as the lectures page) then they would not be able to easily reach MarkUs. Again, we included a link to MarkUs in the navigation bar. As mentioned earlier, the navigation bar not moving also would mean that should a page be longer, a user may have to scroll back up to navigate anywhere. Our navigation bar that moves with the user alleviates this issue.

In essence, our main improvements over Anna's website had the goal of making navigation and use of the website easier and more appealing for the user. The website can be navigated more smoothly and information can be more easily accessed.