

Hunter College | Department of Computer Science

CSCI 39548: Practical Web Development

Homework 1: The "Cloud-Native" Resume

Assigned: Feb 5, 2026 Due: Feb 12, 2026 (11:59 PM EST)

1 Objective

The goal of this assignment is to synthesize your knowledge of the Internet's architecture (HTTP), version control (Git), structure (HTML), and styling (CSS Specificity). You will build a professional personal website and host it on the public web.

2 Required Resources

Review these materials before starting. Your implementation should reflect concepts found in these texts:

- Full Stack Open: Fundamentals of Web Apps
- Web Fundamentals: WWW Intro
- HTML/CSS Workshop Materials
- Docker CLI Cheat Sheet

3 The Assignment Tasks

3.1 Task 1: The Repository & Deployment (Git/GitHub)

1. Create a **public** repository on GitHub named `[your-username].github.io`.
2. You must have at least **three distinct commits** showing the evolution of your site (e.g., "Initial structure," "Add CSS layout," "Fix specificity issues").
3. Activate **GitHub Pages** so your site is live at `https://[your-username].github.io`.

3.2 Task 2: Content & Structure (HTML)

Your site must be a single-page professional resume/portfolio including:

- Semantic HTML5 tags (`<header>`, `<nav>`, `<main>`, `<section>`, `<footer>`).
- At least one **Table** (e.g., for Coursework or Skills).
- At least one **List** (ordered or unordered).
- An image of yourself (or a professional placeholder) stored in an `/assets` folder.

3.3 Task 3: Styling & Specificity (CSS)

You must use an **external CSS file**. Do not use inline styles.

- **The Specificity Challenge:** You must purposefully create a situation where a conflict occurs (e.g., a general element selector vs. a class selector) and leave a comment in your CSS file explaining which rule "won" and why based on specificity scores.
- Use at least three different types of selectors: Element, Class, and ID.

3.4 Task 4: The Docker Reflection (GenAI-Guard)

Create a file in your repository named **REFLECTION.md**. Answer the following:

1. Describe the path an HTTP Request takes from a browser to your GitHub Pages site.
2. We discussed Docker Containers in class. Explain how a Docker Container differs from the environment provided by GitHub Pages.
3. **AI Attribution:** If you used GenAI (ChatGPT, Claude, etc.) to help write code, you **must** include the prompt you used and explain one logic error the AI made that you had to fix manually.

4 Submission Instructions

Submit a single PDF or text file on Brightspace containing:

1. The link to your **Live Website**.
2. The link to your **GitHub Repository**.
3. A screenshot of your site being inspected in **Chrome DevTools**, showing the "Styles" tab for your most specific element.

Late Policy

Assignments submitted after Feb 12 at 11:59 PM will receive a 10% deduction per day. No submissions accepted after Feb 15.