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SI/ISM 254 PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENT 2023

Background

The assignment for SI/ISM 254 aims to consolidate and build upon the material covered in lectures and engaged with during the weekly practicals. You should aim to work on the assignment throughout the semester in order to submit prior to the deadline of 17:00 on 6 October 2023. No extensions will be granted and no email submissions will be accepted. The assignment is worth 30% of your final mark, forming a major part of the assessment for this module.

In the 1990s, quite likely before you were born, the World Wide Web was a very different place, and in its youth there were significantly fewer places where you could develop an online presence without being a large business. Social Media had not yet been invented, and web browsers couldn't yet offer interactive content in the way that they can today. Due to the complexity of hosting their own sites, a lot of hobbyists chose to have a small personal website hosted by another provider. The largest and most famous of these providers was a company called GeoCities which offered a place for people to host sites organised approximately by topic with an index so that you could explore these sites. Remember, this was before Google! At the end of the 1990s the company was bought by Yahoo, who operated it for another decade before shutting it down in 2009. The Japanese language version of the site lasted significantly longer and was only terminated in 2019!

Your task for this module is to develop a personal website for a hobby, passion, sport, or anything else that fits in one of the 29 categories, or Neighbourhoods, that GeoCities provided. To start this project you will need to learn more about the 29 neighbourhoods and GeoCities as a whole on Wikipedia at `https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yahoo!_GeoCities`. Next you can select a neighbourhood, and then a topic that falls under one of the topic areas of your neighbourhood. You will build a modern website on the topic you have chosen using the technologies HTML 5 and CSS 3. Importantly, whilst GeoCities was created in the 1990s your website should not look like it came from the same time period - no marquees or blinking text, please.

It would be prudent to discuss your assignment and submission with the student assistants in the practical sessions. They will be able to guide you through selecting and forming the content in the correct manner. Be wary of working alongside another student on this assignment, as the risk of cheating is high if you do so.

Assignment Brief   *Deadline:* Friday 6 October   *Weighting:* 30%

This assignment requires you to design yourself a website based on the GeoCity neighbourhood and topic that you have selected (see above). You will need to identify content that will be relevant for your website, making use of a **content design strategy** to do this. You should identify and gather content for **at least five web pages**, including the home page. The content on your home page should introduce the topic, and feature other important content from the other pages. Whilst the list of options for pages is endless, ensure that you select content that is relevant to your topic. There is no right or wrong answer but remember to make sure that you have the authority to publish a website on the content you submit.

Having gathered your content, you should use it and **semantic HTML 5** to prepare a comprehensive website. You should ensure that the different pages of your website are hyper-linked together. Structure your documents in such a way that you make use of the **semantic features of HTML 5** and use a wide selection of **different HTML tags** (as appropriate). While you need not (and should not) use every tag and feature of HTML 5 that have been discussed, you should seek to incorporate features from the first seven chapters of the textbook in your website.

You should assemble your text content into the above HTML 5 pages, with any images or media well named and collated into a suitable folder. Note that if you have images (strongly recommended), you should try and resize these so that they are not too large. You should also produce a site diagram image (see pg 7 of the textbook) and include this as a separate file. You can produce this file electronically, or by hand (taking a picture), so long as it is neat.

Having gathered your content and structured your website you should use your knowledge of CSS to **write a single external CSS 3 file and link it to your HTML pages** to style your website. In doing this, you will need to **add *id* and *class* attributes to your HTML** , changing your HTML as required. The aim is to create a well formatted website that looks visually appealing. To achieve this you should **use CSS techniques presented in the prescribed text in chapters 11–17**. You are not expected to use every possible technique presented, but rather to select a subset that offers the best possible design. However, you are required to use **Flexbox** (from chapter 16) to design the **overall** layout of your site. You should ensure that your website is responsive and works on a variety of screen sizes.

The assignment will be assessed as follows:

Content Strategy & Site Diagram	5 pts
Basic HTML Structure	10 pts
Appropriate Use of `id` and `class` Attributes	5 pts
Overall Valid HTML 5	5 pts
Pages Organised Using Semantic Tags	10 pts
Text and Paragraph Formatting	10 pts
Links and Images	5 pts
Accuracy of General CSS 3	10 pts
Accuracy of CSS Flexbox	10 pts
Wide Selection of CSS Selectors and Properties	10 pts
Visual Appeal & UX of Final Site	10 pts
Use of Git and GitHub	10 pts
Total	100 pts

Submission

The assignment should be committed to your assignment Git repository (accessed via GitHub and GitHub Classroom) by the deadline. As you work on your assignment throughout the semester, you should ensure that you commit any changes you make to your Git repository to form a history of your submission. A percentage of your mark will be allocated to performing this, and not doing so may put you more at risk of being accused of cheating.

Your final commit should contain your entire website, including your HTML files, media, a short write-up of your content strategy and your site diagram, and your single CSS file. Please ensure that your primary HTML file is named `index.htm` or `index.html` and that the other files also have appropriate names for their content.