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Module 4 Reflection

WRA 210 002

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At first, when designing my sitemap architecture and navigation, it was hard to define what sub folders best fit into their particular groups. With this website I wanted to include everything that exemplifies the work I've done in my life thus far. So that's why I've included more specific tabs such as *Academic History* and *About me*. I was inspired by a few examples I looked up on Google – when typing in beginner sitemaps – and almost all of them included an *About me* page. And also I think it is imperative that when a company or employer look through my website, that he or she can see the professional and also the personal side of myself. As far as the actual design of the sitemap, I went with a pyramid type tiered system to show that everything leads back to the landing page. I want my website to be set up that everything is accessible through the home page, including the sub- folders within my navigation bar. Although I know it will take more work and a better understanding of how that can be done, I think that if I'm going to be making a website I better do it to the best of my ability the first time; I can avoid many necessary changes that way! Moving down the pyramid, I created my site navigation. I've organized the navigation so that the most important resources are to the left and the least important to the right. Just as we read left to right, I want people who view my website to find what they need accordingly. I think it creates an overall flow moving from my portfolio (my professional side) down to "about me" and "contact me" (my personal sides). And finally the last piece of my sitemap are the sub-folders that can be found under each navigation page. First of all, I chose to use a page design to directly indicate that those sub-folders are all their own pages – not to be confused with any other. Those pages should be accessible in themselves, therefore they should have their own space and their own page. However the way I show this is a bit different than what is seen above. I used dashed lines in a symmetrical downward motion to show that each page doesn't lead to another, but more so that each page can be found under its specific navigation. Beyond the overall content that will be put into this website I've added a few more things.

Two important icons I've added to the bottom of my sitemap (and also to the bottom of each page) is a Facebook and Twitter Icon. With the rapidly growing technological society, linking to these icons are especially important. Employers and companies will want to know if you're social media savvy, or even simpler, how you present yourself in a somewhat professional setting such as that. Therefore, I would like these icons to be accessible through all my pages for that reason alone. The last item I added to my sitemap, which was stated previously, is a "home" button

at the top right corner. As I stated previously, I want my home page to where everyone accesses the information needed. Thus, I put a home tab in my website so that viewers are easily able to return to the landing without having to click the back key four or five times. I know that drives me crazy when I have to do so!

Overall, this was the rationale for creating my sitemap. I wanted it to be organized, neat, and a full representation of who I am and what I've done with my life. And I think I've incorporated all those very well.