

Happy Halloween

This assignment is to test both your design skills and your current understanding of all the material so far. The assignment is relatively free-form and mostly up to you what you want to do. Here are the guidelines...

- Create a Halloween themed site. It can be anything you like, an informational site about Halloween, an event site, a “store,” whatever you like.
- The site must contain at least three pages, all linked together properly. You may use a traditional menu or not, but whatever navigation scheme you use, it must be professional and a good user experience.
- You must use proper coding techniques including division of concerns, page modularity, indenting, commenting, nesting, etc.
- You must use proper visual design techniques and maintain good UI and UX (see chapter 3)
- You are not required to use CSS for all formatting, but by far most should be CSS. Follow the simple css rules, use CSS unless you have good reason not to. Use Classes where appropriate, and in a site like this you should have several instances of classes. Use only external style sheets unless you have good reason to use either embedded or inline CSS, but if you do, be prepared to explain why (with a good reason).

Grading: Grading will be competitive. The “best” will receive a grade of 100% and the rest will be relative to that. “Best” will be judged not only on design and artistic skill, but also on coding skill, technical skill, layout, etc. In other words, all the coding techniques discussed so far count in the concept of “best” as well as aesthetics. For example, a site that looks amazing but is an unmaintainable mess of inline css and unclosed tags will not get as good a grade as a simpler looking site with perfect code. Looks count, but so does skill.

Hint: Simple designs and elegance will produce the best sites. Do not throw everything you can at the site and create an eyesore. Use basic and complimentary colors, do not use animated gifs unless you do so sparingly and for good reason (there is almost no good reason), use large font, easy to read flows, etc. Those of you less artistically inclined, keep focus on good code and “borrow” designs from other similar sites. Those of you more artistically inclined, be creative but don’t sacrifice your code quality.

You are free to use any technique or library you like, whether we covered it or not, with the exception you must code the site yourself. In other words you **can’t** use a site builder like Wix or a tool like Dreamweaver or a platform like Wordpress or a theme plugin. However you can use things like Bootstrap or jQuery if you can figure them out. In other words, you can use developer tools and libraries, but no premade site builder tools. If in doubt, ask.

Finally, you **MUST** be able to explain your code. If you can’t, you risk a zero.

