

Paul Graham

Personal Website

Statement of Delivery

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Course Code: DECO7140

Tutorial: (PG)T1

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Submission Date: 15-06-2015

Delivery Note

1. As this website uses Google Fonts and Twitter embedded tweets widget, please evaluate the website with Internet connection.
2. The original website (<http://paulgraham.com/>) has too many articles, and it is meaningless to repetitively adding large amount of articles with same layout to the rebuilt website pages in the project. Thus, in **each** section of the site, about four to ten original articles/pages are selected to be added into the remade website, so that each section of the original website is rebuilt and can be presented in our project as designed in the early proposal.

Design Changes

1. Mini search bar

In our design proposal document, the search bar in the main navigation is an old-fashioned rectangular one. In order to make it congruent with our design concept, it is changed into round-corner style. Also, the width of the search bar is minimized by default so that the navigation bar looks clean and concise. When users click on the search bar, it will expand to the normal width after an animated effect. In this situation, contents typed in the search bar can be read by users directly.

2. Adaptive layout

Originally, a 960px grid system is utilized to design the website in a fixed layout in the proposal. However, as mention in the design document, the main target audiences of the website are programmers, who are more likely to use high resolution monitors. To ensure that the website looks comfortable either on large screens or small ones adaptive layout is applied. The width of the main column now can adapt to visitors' browser width from 960px to 1360px.

3. Clickable article preview div

'Read More' buttons are deleted at the article preview blocks. Instead, whole article preview div becomes a clickable hyperlink. The user can click on the article preview to browse the article details directly. This change makes the browsing experience more like Google material design's user experience, which is our design concept.

Once an article is visited, its preview background will turn into grey slightly to inform the user that he has visited these links.

4. Article orders

After examining the articles of the originally website, it is discovered that in each topic (ARC, Lisp, Spam, and Responses sections), articles are ordered by the importance of the content. Hence, articles on the new site are arranged in the same sequence of each section as in the original website. However, in the article Index page and 'other articles' page, the articles are listed in chronological order.

5. Minor changes

The profile picture of Paul Graham in the right sidebar is enlarged and moved downward for aesthetic reasons.

Another small change is that the footer navigation links are removed, since a fixed navigation bar is used so the navigation bar stays at the top of the page all the time. Thus, there is no need to use footer navigation.

JavaScript Description

layout_config.js

This script is used to modify the layout of the website. Two functions are explained below.

1. Fixed navigation

According to a user experience research, sticky navigation bars are 22% quicker than normal ones during navigating (Denney, 2012). This script allows the navigation bar stick to the top of the page when a user scrolls down the page. In 'Articles' and 'Questions' section, the local navigation sidebar can also be fixed to the top part of the page. This function can help users navigate more easily when browsing our website, especially when they are reading long articles. By using the fixed navigation, users do not need to scroll back to the top to visit other pages.

The original concept of the script is gained from <http://www.cnblogs.com/yjzhu/archive/2013/01/18/2866782.html>, and we made our own version with the help of Andy Epifani.

2. Height adjustment

With use of this script, the height of the right sidebar will also expand. As the height of each page varies, it is hard to set a fixed height for the right-side column. The script will compare the height of the main column, the right-side column and the whole viewport, and then apply the largest value to the right-side column.

form_valid.js

In order to avoid invalid form information submissions, this JavaScript is used for verifying user's input in the 'Ask Me' page. If all compulsory fields are filled out, a confirmation message will be displayed in blue and clear all input data, otherwise, an alert message will be displayed in red with incomplete fields highlighted with red background. Then, the user can identify the incomplete fields and fill in the form quickly. Moreover, the `changeColor()` function will automatically reset background colour back to white when the user clicks the input field.

gallery.js

This script offers an interactive content gallery on the index page. The content in the gallery automatically changes every 4 seconds. If a user moves the mouse cursor on the gallery, it will stop changing temporarily until the cursor moves out of the gallery. There are also two arrows at the left and right side of the gallery, at which the user can switch to previous or next content by clicking. The contents of the gallery are image elements with hyperlinks so that users can click them to access the details.

This gallery makes the home page more lively and prettier. Also, it is friendly for maintenance and updating. The content of the gallery are elements embedded in a list (``). And the variable "max" in the script can control how many items will be shown in the gallery. jQuery code is used for fading contents and detecting mouse events.

twitter_widget.js

This is the support script for twitter embedded widget and is provided by Twitter. We put this code in a separate file for best practice reason.

jquery-2.1.4.min.js

The original jQuery library file. jQuery code is used in gallery.js.

Known Validation Issues

Best Practice

ask.html

Line 113, Column 72 - name is not a valid attribute for select

```
113.<select id="prefix" name="prefix" onclick="changeColor(this);">
```

Line 129, Column 78 - name is not a valid attribute for select

```
129.<select id="inquiry_type" name="inquiry_type" onclick="changeColor(this);">
```

Line 142, Column 81 - name is not a valid attribute for textarea

```
142.<textarea id="question_area" name="question_area" onclick="changeColor(this);"></textarea>
```

We searched "select" and "textarea" tags on w3schools and it says in both tags "name" is a valid attribute.

References

Denney, H. (2012). Sticky Menus Are Quicker To Navigate – Smashing Magazine. Smashing Magazine. Retrieved 14 June 2015, from <http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2012/09/11/sticky-menus-are-quicker-to-navigate/>

Resources:

Eric Meyer's "Reset CSS" 2.0: <http://cssreset.com/>

Twitter Embedded Widget: <https://twitter.com/settings/widgets/>

Index gallery pictures:

<http://payen.bacquet.free.fr/articles.php?lng=fr&pg=99&tconfig=0/>

<http://www.adnetworksolutions.co.uk/block-spam-and-viruses-before-they-reach-your-network/>

<http://www.ladeblaw.com/h1b/>