Web Development Summative Assessment 2: Development Document

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Brief

In this assessment, the goal was to create an interactive website using web technologies. Specifically, I was to use the techniques, skills, and knowledge of web development that have been taught to me over the course of this semester to demonstrate my understanding and ability to apply them practically. Additionally, this website was to follow a certain theme of my choice. For my theme, I am allowed to pick or adapt any existing website as your reference idea or make one up. There are also certain creative/technical constraints to consider: I must use HTML5 and CSS, the website should include at least five pages in which users should be able to make navigational decisions (where they want to go next). Additionally, media assets such as images and/or videos should be included to make the website more interactive and engaging. Finally, I can use JavaScript (or any language that would be related) to enhance my website further.

Design Direction

The theme I had chosen for this project was the topic “Organization”. For this theme, I would have to create a website related to a business. Considering the broad scope of this theme, I had an interesting idea; With the approval of my teacher, I had decided: I would make a website *for* the Ghostbusters. Not a website about the Ghostbusters franchise, but rather, a somewhat realistic website for a fictional organization. The idea stood out to me, and it would allow me to focus more on applying my knowledge rather than focusing on design, as I imagined a “realistic” Ghostbusters website to be a bit more old-fashioned.

For this theoretical website, I tried to imagine what the Ghostbusters would ideally need in a website and attempted to integrate these ideas into the following project. My most notable points would be a Contacts page, since the Ghostbusters mainly operate on job requests, a Portfolio page describing their work, a simple About Us page that shows off the members, and a News website that talks about their latest endeavours or new developments. Of course, a Home page would be included as the first page users are sent to when going to this website.

In terms of the aesthetics of the website, in order to achieve that “old-fashioned” style, I settled on a minimalistic colour palette of greys and whites that fits the Ghostbusters theme, and then a minimalistic two-column design that focuses more on the content of the page. The side column would contain one-click links to the news pages as an alternative to going to the News page, and would also scroll with the user, allowing them to easily access said pages. I wasn’t very keen on adding a lot of interactivities to the website that weren’t buttons for links, so there isn’t much JavaScript coding in this website. However, I wanted to include it somehow, and so I coded in one secret interaction with the website that involves clicking a certain element. While it’s easy enough to see what it is in the code, I’d rather have it secret to most users for that element of surprise.

For a lot of the media assets, I took the images from the [fandom.com](https://ghostbusters.fandom.com/wiki/Ghostbusters_Wiki) website for the Ghostbusters, as well as a few from the Ghostbusters [Wikipedia](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjN7s_FxcWNAxVcxAIHHbSBN_gQFnoECEgQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fen.wikipedia.org%2Fwiki%2FGhostbusters&usg=AOvVaw0WqBSGddrcaI59o3FCHbbs&opi=89978449) and a few other miscellaneous websites, with credits listed in the title tags of the images. The one audio asset used in my special interaction is taken from the [Ghostbusters Soundboard](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwin1pLqxcWNAxUNwAIHHWw6KG0QFnoECBcQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.101soundboards.com%2Fboards%2F27681-ghostbusters-soundboard&usg=AOvVaw3fw2ZvUfBfi9GQe231aYsH&opi=89978449) from 101soundboards.com.

Technical Description and Video Walkthrough

Below will be a link to the video walkthrough of my website in action. First, you will be shown a quick demonstration of the website in the browser, and then taken to the coding software to see the code that is used to create the website.

**Link to the Video Walkthrough:**

Critical Reflection

Looking back on this project, I can see that it allowed me to mostly achieve my goal of demonstration. While certain lectures were not applied in this website (mostly because I thought it would be out of place), I believe that I was able to apply my knowledge well and created a website that is at least interesting in design and credibility.

What I believe is most compelling about this work would be the layout and design of the website. As I stated earlier, the idea behind this project was to create a website that looked like it was for the Ghostbusters, and therefore from the era of their technology. While the websites of those times are admittedly simple in design, in the modern era, this kind of design does invoke a sense of nostalgia in those who remember the days of lower-end computers.

If I could further improve it, however, perhaps I would have taken a different approach to the design of the website and made it a more modern website for the modern-day Ghostbusters portrayed in the movies. On the other hand, I could have also made the header section of the website scroll with the user as well, adding to the convenience to the website.

I could have also tried to find more ways to apply my JavaScript knowledge by adding other interesting features to the website, or perhaps I could have found better images to replace the ones I use on the website.

Last but not least, I want to admit that I am not an avid Ghostbusters fan. Because of that , there may be certain inconsistencies in terms of the information regarding the Ghostbusters, and made-up content regarding the Ghostbusters (that being the news pages) was also difficult to come up with. You could say I didn’t have the “spirit” of a more committed Ghostbusters fan.

Finally, in terms of some things I could learn to improve the website, I could dive more into JavaScript events to make some sort of reasonable interactivity within the website. Perhaps another secret interaction that would make Slimer appear on the screen, or a way to display the amount of viewers on the page- a feature that would certainly include the number of ghosts viewing the page. Additionally, I could have utilized the special functions of CSS more frequently, such as animations or background effects.