

507 | Web Design: Content Management Systems

Mondays 6:00PM–9:00PM | Oct 6 to Dec 8, 2014 | location: 112 Michigan Ave Room 917

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Course Description

Content Management Systems is meant to broaden the student's understanding of servers, back-end development, and website management. In this course we focus on Jekyll, a flat-file CMS and static site generator. Through creating a full site in Jekyll students learn the ins and outs of what it takes to create a content management system. From generating a custom site template to implementing a categorized blog system students will generate a skill set that will easily apply to a range of other flat file and database driven CMS options. Covering the pros and cons of a range of CMS platforms students will leave this course with the skills and knowledge to approach any CMS with confidence.

Prerequisites

Advanced HTML and CSS.

Course Objectives/Outcomes

- working knowledge of dynamic website development
- broad understanding of back- and front-end development
- ability to work with a CMS at an advanced level
- ability to work on a remote server to make changes without a cPanel

Textbooks

none

Supplies

usb drive/ cloud storage

Evaluation

Participation: Process work, class critiques, class preparedness, attendance and work done in class

Faculty reserve the right to make changes and/or adjustments to the syllabus.

The mission of the Adult Continuing Education program is to provide excellence in adult multi-- disciplinary art and design education through studio, digital, academic, and museum exposure with the goal of building hands-- on and digital art making skills, developing creative and critical thinking skills, fostering expressive and conceptual capabilities, and providing structured, sequential learning pathways for personal and professional application in all areas and future fields of study.

Course Schedule

The class schedule is subject to change at the discretion of faculty based on necessary adjustments to specific activities relevant to this course. Updates to the schedule will be shared with the class as appropriate.

WEEK 1

Introductions

Review Syllabus / Overview of Content Management Systems

Breakdown of Web Resources

LECTURE: Overview of Content Management Systems

LECTURE: The Internet in a Nutshell

-Servers, HTML, scripting, databases, & CMS' explained

HOMEWORK: Review course materials

WEEK 2

Static & Dynamic Web Development

LECTURE: Static Sites vs. Dynamic Sites

WORKSHOP: Getting Started with Github

HOMEWORK: Practice using Github

WEEK 3

Getting Started with Jekyll

LECTURE: Why Jekyll?

STUDIO: Working with Jekyll

HOMEWORK: none :)

WEEK 4

Using Jekyll

STUDIO: Building a static site with Jekyll

HOMEWORK: Work with Jekyll

WEEK 5

Exploring Jekyll's Power

WORKSHOP: Hosting a Jekyll Site for free on Github

LECTURE: Templates, Posts, and YAML

STUDIO: Building a basic Jekyll site

HOMEWORK: Set up a Jekyll site on Github

WEEK 6

What Jekyll means for Content Management Systems?

LECTURE: Similarities with Wordpress, Drupal, & Joomla!

WORKSHOP: Prose.io and making Jekyll easy

STUDIO: Theme Building

HOMEWORK: Extend your Jekyll site

WEEK 7

Blogging with Jekyll

LECTURE: Updating Sites on the Fly

STUDIO: Jekyll Posts and the many uses

HOMEWORK: Work on Jekyll Site

WEEK 8

PHP & Things Jekyll Can't Do

LECTURE: PHP and Other Scripting Languages

STUDIO: Comparing a Jekyll Site to a Wordpress Theme

HOMEWORK: Continue work on Jekyll Site

WEEK 9

Open / Catch up

LECTURE: Continuing with Jekyll

STUDIO: Continuing with Jekyll

WEEK 10

Next Steps

LECTURE: Working with clients/ Deciding What CMS to use

LECTURE: Advanced Topics in Content Management Systems

Policies

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago is committed to full compliance with all laws regarding equal opportunities for students with disabilities. Continuing Studies students with disabilities should call 312.629.6170 or email cs@saic.edu for further information.

Continuing Studies

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