CS 2300 Design Rationale – Project 1

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1 Target Audience

My target audience are friends and family. Because of this audience, I have made the website very friendly-looking with low-intensity colors and a cat with a computer to give a casual atmosphere.

I have a comment form instead of a comment form, to be consistent with the casual atmosphere.

2 Design Choices

I paid special attention to the principles of Alignment and Contrast in my design, for a better user experience. The background image is also removed in mobile display for better contrast.

I also put the most interesting or important site elements in the top half of the page, because that is where users look first. This includes the menu bar, the page title, and the more significant part of my resume.

3 Code Structure and Design

I'm am using a header.php and a meta.php. I use the same Google Fonts and the same header across pages, so it makes sense to also keep them inside these PHP files. You will notice that I didn't include the title HTML element inside the meta.php file, as that varies across pages.

There are two CSV files, titled <code>comment_censor.csv</code> and <code>comments.csv</code>. The first one is an open source/free license project hosted online to help forum moderators prevent profanity in their forums. I'm using it to prevent any bad comments. The second one stores the data from my HTML form and displays it as comments.

4 WOW Elements

WOW elements I did include:

- Styling of website
- Use of regular expressions (see guest.php)
- Extensive use of PHP (see guest.php)
- Responsive design
- $\bullet\,$ Good design rationale