

CNMT 210 Fall 2015 Final Project Introduction and Overview

Value: Approximately 20% of Final Grade

Due Date: 12/10/2015 12:00pm Central Time

The final project will utilize several of the aspects of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript that you've learned throughout the course. The end product will be a set of web pages that can be used as a basis of a portfolio demonstrating your knowledge of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

The pages involved in the final project will be introduced in the coming weeks and then added to your assignment. Each of these pages will have its own set of requirements but there are also several requirements that are common to all pages (and to good web design). Many, but not all, of those common requirements are included in this document.

Specific objectives within the assignment:

- Demonstrate use of external stylesheets and JavaScript
- Demonstrate ability to create a web form and validate it with JavaScript
- Demonstrate ability to create a fluid and responsive web layout
- Demonstrate application of lists, links, tables, and other HTML elements
- Demonstrate correct naming for web files
- Demonstrate validation of HTML and CSS and cross-browser functionality
- Add images to blocks of text and have text wrap-around images
- Create print-friendly version of pages as noted

Checkpoints

There will be multiple checkpoints of the project, each worth an amount towards the final grade. These checkpoints will be demonstrated in class. If you miss class or do not have that portion complete during the designated demonstration time then you will not earn the credit for that checkpoint.

Project Completion

When complete, the final project should be submitted as a zip file containing all required elements, including screenshots. It is expected that you will work on this project outside of class/lab time.

Scoring and Extra Credit

The project will be scored according to a rubric based on the requirements here and in the forthcoming documents. In certain cases, the project grade or a page grade may be affected by issues such as validation or improper filenames (or other issues detailed in the project documents). In these cases, credit reduction is cumulative; Each overarching problem will further reduce the remaining credit for that page or for the project as a whole.

Note that I reserve the right to add to a student's score for projects and examples that go above and beyond the requirements with regard to content, layout, and overall quality.

Project Autonomy

The final project is a chance for you to demonstrate your understanding of web page creation and best practices. Unlike other assignments, there will be much more freedom to interpret the page requirements as you see fit. However, with that power comes great responsibility. You will be graded on how well the pages work according to the criteria emphasized in class such as validation and cross-browser compatibility. Therefore, use of any technology or other item that does not work in older browsers is generally not acceptable unless there is a reasonable (as determined by me) workaround provided for those older browsers.

Color and Style

Unless indicated otherwise for a particular portion of the project, you are welcome to use any colors or color schemes that you would like. Note however, that a page with no color and styling applied will receive zero credit. I recommend viewing Professor Stern's videos on colors. If colors are specified within the requirements for a given page then you are required to use them.

External Libraries

Use of any external libraries for JavaScript or CSS or any other external resources not listed here will result in a grade of zero for any pages in which the resources are included (whether or not they're used).

Acceptable external libraries/resources are limited to the HTML5 shiv and Web Fonts.

Fonts

It is expected that you will use appropriate font-family stacks and use different fonts for heading elements versus text or paragraph-based elements. Use of Web Fonts is optional. Missing font stacks or inappropriate use of fonts may result in reduction of up to 20% per affected page.

Images

You are welcome to use imagery of your own creation and you are welcome to use whatever size (in pixels) is appropriate for your page. However, note that you may lose full or partial credit on any page where an image greater than 100KB in file size is used. This size rule applies to all pages where images are used. Descriptive alt tags are required, not just "image" or a similar generic alt tag. As always, if you use images from the web be sure that you can do so legally (as discussed in class).

Additional Requirements

The following are requirements that apply to every page/resource or the project as a whole. This section is not all-inclusive and there may be additional requirements as noted in weekly handouts for the assignment and/or on D2L.

File Naming and Location

As with every other assignment, appropriate file and directory naming for web is crucial. If you have a doubt as to appropriate file and directory names, please ask. Failure to follow the standards discussed in class may result final project grade reduction up to 50%.

All JavaScript and styles should be external to the HTML. Inclusion of styles or JavaScript within a page may result in a grade reduction of up to 50% for that page.

Validation

Valid HTML, CSS, and working, error-free, JavaScript is required for this project. Failure of any of these may result in zero credit for any pages affected by the syntax or validation error. For example, if you share a CSS stylesheet across multiple pages and that stylesheet is invalid, it may result in zero credit for those pages. Unlike previous assignments, there should be no validation "Warnings". Exception: If you add a comment in your HTML noting why your desired layout requires invalid markup, then you may be granted an exception (at my discretion).

Links

All pages should be linked from the navigation and all links, whether internal or to other pages or resources, should work and not return a 404 or similar "Not Found" error. Broken links may result in a grade reduction of up to 50% for the page affected.

Semantics

It is expected that you will use HTML5 semantic elements where appropriate. Use of non-semantic where a semantic should be may result in partial or total loss of credit for that page. For example, using a <div> instead of <footer> for the footer of the page is not acceptable. Exception: If you add comments in your HTML noting why you need a non-semantic in a specific location then you may be granted an exception (at my discretion). There will also be an exception when working with forms validation.

Cross-Browser Testing and Responsive Design

Cross-browser testing and responsive design is key for today's web. When submitting the final assignment, each page must include screenshots demonstrating use in:

1. Internet Explorer 10
2. Internet Explorer 8

3. Firefox Responsive Design View 320x480
4. Firefox Responsive Design View
5. Firefox Desktop

Failure to include a given screenshot may result in a score deduction of up to 20% per missing screenshot for the page in which the screenshot is missing.

Obtaining Help

Also unlike other assignments, I will not be able to offer specific assistance with creation of elements of the final project. I can, however, offer opinions and help direct you towards how I might find the answer.

There are two discussion boards on D2L related to the final project. One board is for general discussion and questions on aspects of the assignment and should be used to obtain clarifications on specific items. The other board is for announcements and official clarifications on the assignment. It is your responsibility to watch these discussions and for any changes that arise from them.