

Assignment 1 – Web Design

Worth: 25%

Due: 23rd April, 2010

Teams: Can be done individually or in pairs. Postgraduate and Undergraduate students cannot be in the same team.

Synopsis:

This assignment will require you to design a web site and some of the web pages and implement them using HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

Restrictions:

You cannot use any dynamic server-side components (such as ASP.NET or AJAX) for this assignment – all of your web pages must have an .html file extension. Your web site should work in any modern mainstream browser – it should not rely on any technologies that require browser plug-ins (e.g. you cannot use Java Applets, Flash or SilverLight).

Requirements:

You are required to design a website for a club. The club can be any type of club you like, real or imaginary. For example, you might be a member of some sort of sporting club (eg. football, swimming, racing) or another type of social club (eg. dogs, cards, dancing, etc). You are to design a website for that club. The club that you choose must hold some sort of regular events (eg. sporting competitions), so one of the functions of your website will be to display the results for those events.

There are two parts to this assignment. The first is to **design the entire website for your club**. Your report (see more below) will include details about your design. The second part of the assignment is to **implement two of the actual pages** of the web site. The two pages you must implement are the home page and a sign-up page. The home page should contain some basic information about the club. This page will be suitable as an entry point for new comers who know nothing about the club. The sign-up page is where potential members can enter their details to sign-up and join the club. Some other requirements are:

- Your site should have a unified design with consistent look and feel achieved via appropriate use of colours, fonts, images etc and a common page template (including at least a header, footer and sidebar menu).
- Remember to consider your target audience when designing both the functionality and visual style of the site.
- Your web pages must be strictly developed using the XHTML standard and your XHTML source must be consistently indented and easy for humans to read and understand. This implies that you should either write the XHTML source manually or at least use a tool that produces clear simple HTML source, i.e. you should not use tools such as Microsoft Word that generates HTML that is hideous to read.
- CSS must be used to perform all styling. The home page should contain a header, footer, menu and sidebar formatted using `div` elements and positioned using CSS.
- CSS code should be imported from external style sheets with only minimal use of inline style attributes and no use of internal style elements.
- The menu (used on both implemented pages) must contain *at least* 4 items or links. These should be links to all of the relevant top level pages within your web site. (Most of these items will be broken links, as only two web pages will be implemented in this assignment.)

- The sign-up page must contain HTML form elements but you do not need to implement any server side components to capture the data entered via the sign-up form. The web pages that you create should include text boxes, pull down menus, checkboxes, radio buttons and submit buttons.
- The sign-up page must use client-side JavaScript to perform appropriate validation of user data. On your sign-up page you should have examples of validation for numeric input, alphabetic input, email formats and date formats. All JavaScript must be included from separate source files with a .js file extension.
- You should use either a flexible or centred page design that works even for users with screen resolutions of 800x600. Your web site must also follow the WCAG guidelines and work reasonably for users with low-bandwidth connections.
- A **larger than normal amount of comments** are required to be included in your HTML, CSS and JavaScript code to demonstrate to your tutor (assignment marker) that you thoroughly understand the meaning of everything that you are using.

NOTE: If you cannot come up with your own club, you can design a website for The Southside Dog Obedience Club. This is a social club which runs dog obedience classes and members of the club also trial their dogs in obedience trials which are held all over the state. They currently have a website at (<http://www.southsideobedience.webs.com/index.htm>), but you would be designing a new and better website.

Learning from other Sites:

A good way for beginners to learn about creating web pages is to examine the source of other high quality pages available on the web and to learn how they do various things. **It is unethical to plagiarise such code verbatim**, but it is quite OK to examine them, understand how they work and apply the same techniques and approaches in your web site. Different web pages can provide different things; one web site might illustrate the use of a font or colour scheme that you find effective, while another might use CSS to achieve a page layout that you like. Others still might use JavaScript to achieve dynamic effects, such a drop down menus. Other web sites of the same genre might provide some ideas regarding content and functionality. You are required, in your report (described below), to review at least three (3) other web sites. From these web sites you are to select three different design aspects that you would adopt for your own web page. Your report should describe why they are important for your web site. You should also critically analyse these web sites and describe three different design aspects you would avoid. Also describe why you would avoid these design aspects.

Report:

Along with your implementation, you must also submit a report (structured as you deem most appropriate). Your report should be a maximum of 10 pages in length. Your report should:

- clearly articulate the purpose of the site. Why are we building the site? How will we judge the success of the site? Who is the target audience? What will the users want when they come to your site and what aspects will they care most about?
- show a plan of your site by creating a storyboard flowchart that shows the structure and logic behind the content presentation and navigation choices that you offer.
- give examples of how your site demonstrates good web site and web page design principles^[include citations] and how you have tailored your design to your target audience. Discuss how you have followed the WCAG guidelines.
- contain a review of at least 3 other web sites. For each of the other web sites that you have learnt from (see above).
- include a statement of completeness for your implementation (have you implemented both web pages and are there any know bugs or deficiencies).

What to Submit

Zip file containing:

1. 2 HTML files (index.html and review.html)
2. Any image files used
3. CSS file(s)
4. JavaScript file(s)
5. Written report in MS Word or PDF format (10 pages maximum)

How to Submit

Assignments must be submitted electronically via the Online Assessment System (OAS):

<http://www.scitech.qut.edu.au/study/current/oas/>

Late Assignment Policy

Assignments will not be accepted if more than two weeks late. Assignments received up to two weeks late will be accepted but a sliding scale of penalties will apply as follows:

1 day late	10% of the mark given is deducted.
2 days late	20% of the mark given is deducted.
3 – 4 days late	30% of the mark given is deducted.
5 – 7 days late	40% of the mark given is deducted.
8 – 10 days late	50% of the mark given is deducted
> 10 days late	100% of the mark given is deducted

When faced with extraordinary circumstances, students may apply for extension to the submission date of the assignment. Applications for extensions must be submitted directly to the unit coordinator **prior to** and **no later than the due date** of the assignment. Applications received after that time will only be considered under exceptional circumstances. Extension will only be considered on the following grounds and accompanied by appropriate written evidence:

Grounds	Type of documentation
Medical	Medical certificate certified by an appropriate registered practitioner, stating the dates/s on which the student was examined, the duration of the complaint and that in the practitioner's opinion, the student was unfit for study.
Paid work commitments	Letter from employer stating why the work demands prevented the completion of the assessment item.
Exceptional close family or personal circumstances	Statutory declaration or other appropriate documentation (eg: a medical certificate for the ill relative)

Extensions will **not** normally be granted for:

- social engagements;
- disk failure or computer/printer failure (unless accompanied by appropriate evidence);
- poor time management with study workload;
- late enrolment in the unit;
- pressure from multiple assignment due dates.

Unit coordinators will communicate the decisions on the outcome of the applications to students via email. If approved, a new due date will be specified in the communication. Students who are dissatisfied with the decisions in relation to their requests for extensions should direct their concerns to the relevant Head of School.