30% of overall marks

Deadline: 12pm Friday 18th November (week 7), submitted via Turnitin.

Deliverable

A 2000–3000 word written essay, surveying and analysing 3-4 websites—they can all be different, or cover a theme or particular topic. For instance, a comparison of one kind of site (e.g. portfolios, sports, gaming, media, commerce…); or sites that show how a technology (e.g. Javascript, HTML5 Canvas, CSS3 animations…) is used across each.

What to look out for

**are there any technical issues or faults in the code (e.g. invalid HTML, Javascript errors in the console)?**

**how is the website content (video, sound, gallery, forum, blog, chat, etc) delivered?**

**does the site appear to use any external APIs - if so, how?**

**can you find evidence of any frameworks, libraries, or other ready-made components?**

**is the site responsive? If so, where are the breakpoints and how are they used?**

**is the navigation effective or is some content hard to find? can you identify any usability issues or errors?**

**is the code readable and well-structured?**

**is it a single-page app (SPA) or a series of pages?**

**how are any user interaction animations or transitions generated?**

Assessment 1 Marking criteria

An understanding of front-end web code (60% of assignment mark):

A clear understanding of how HTML5, CSS3 and Javascript as used in the chosen websites.

An understanding of any third-party code or frameworks.

Knowledge of some current and industry-standard practice within front-end web development, with historical context.

A well-structured essay (25% of assignment mark):

Clear use of semantically structured headings, comparison tables, lists etc. in your essay.

Annotated and/or titled illustrations (screen shots, diagrams, etc.) to explain your points.

Use of references (15% of assignment mark):

Include references to information sources to back up your observations (see the DMU Library guide on Harvard Referencing).

For Turnitin, please use PDFs, RTF or Word documents (see What type of files can be submitted in Turnitin?). To gain experience in other more future-friendly formats you could also generate a PDF of your essay from Markdown, Multimarkdown, or even LaTeX. If you choose to do this, add a note to explain your decision. In all cases, make sure your external links and links to references all resolve correctly.

JS Beautifier

Looking at at some minified HTML/CSS/Javascript (or even \*gasp\* JSON) code? Un-minification is called 'beautifying' and this online tool does the job :-)