

LIB2024

Final – Report

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The coding languages and technologies we have learned about and used in LIB2024 can definitely be applied towards innovation within the Library and Information Services field. Interfacing between the user and the catalogue is an important aspect regardless of where in the field you are working. Having a basic understanding of how to use HTML, CSS, and Javascript could be used to troubleshoot issues on existing websites to change them for your specific user base. The knowledge can also be applied to building web pages where the user can input their own information. This allows for programs to have interactive sign up forms, or to include suggestion boxes on the website. In essence the knowledge from this course in HTML, CSS, and JavaScript will allow us to build basic websites for our patrons and staff; either as an interim solution that will be fixed by outside or more experienced help, or as the solution depending on the situation.

Depending on what sector of Library and Information services you work in the knowledge of how HTML, CSS, and JavaScript interact, as well as how programs like Sublime and Github work, could be very useful in interacting with the public. Many libraries are now offering technological help services in addition to traditional reference desk assistance. Looking up and giving basic explanations of how to troubleshoot HTML, or CSS or even JavaScript code is possible, however after taking this course I can say that having actual knowledge on how they individually work, and how they interact would be even more beneficial to answering related questions. The knowledge base from this class will allow for the technological help services to expand further in the library world, as it should.

As information services gain a larger web presence it will be necessary to create more intuitive web pages to house and disseminate the information being sought. Intuitive and innovative web design relies on both the users and the developers to be successful; this course, and the knowledge it has imparted, will allow us to be a bridge between the two. We will both be directly conversing with the people who use the web pages, using the web pages ourselves to aid those users who need assistance, and be able to understand some of the constraints on the interactive web page design. The base level of understanding this course gives us for the languages of webpages will facilitate understanding between the staff and outsider web developers. Being able to understand how a webpage might be developed will allow us to communicate the needs of the users and staff more effectively to the website designers. This could lead to more innovative approaches to library/information website design that benefit both the users and the staff without putting strain on the developers.