Assignment 5 - Web HTML & CSS Prototypes
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Links

GitHub Repo: https://github.com/hspencer10/hspencer_pui_hw5_spring_2022 (due to setup complications, my main branch is actually "master")

Website: https://pui-hw5-da685.web.app/

Reflection

Heuristic Evaluation:

For my Heuristic evaluations, I identified several key areas where my design could be improved but only implemented some of them for this assignment since others would require building out other pages and additional functionality not specified for this assignment.

The first heuristic I noticed was reducing the clutter, especially on the course detail pages. I was able to "hide" the requirements fulfilled section by including an image of a checkmark that the user can hover over to see what the course requires. I have the check mark there currently but do not have the hover feature implemented yet.

The second heuristic I fixed was the consistency in design and layout. I started, and will continue, to use the same dropdown design for all of the locations where there is a drop down. Additionally, to continue to improve this heuristic, I am planning on having all of my course detail pages mirror the one that is currently developed now, regardless of if the course is in plan or not so that the user has an easier time digesting the information.

The third heuristic I am planning on improving is keeping users informed about the system status. To implement this, I will incorporate flash alerts whenever the user performs an action such as adding a class to their schedule or removing it so that they are aware of the action they just performed.

Implementation Challenges:

The biggest challenges I faced during the process of implementation was determining how to lay out the course schedules because there isn't really an easy format that lets you display widgets with text on them in HTML. For the main screen, I used a gray background and added text over it but changed the background color. For the detail page, I used a table to help format the cells and then filled in similar placed ones with their corresponding color to imitate the schedule on the main screen.

Another challenge I faced was determining how to position specific elements on the screen exactly where I wanted them so that it would reflect my assignment 3 prototypes as closely as possible. This bug did take me awhile to figure out but I discovered that using nested div tags helped a lot with grouping and arranging big elements together.

Brand Reflection:

The brand identity of my client is primarily displayed through the color scheme of the site. The main color used is burgundy/red which is Carnegie Mellon's main color theme. In terms of feel, I broke up the site into pages that are the most primary functions that Carnegie Mellon students perform. For instance, the home screen is for viewing your current courses and schedule and making it super simple to switch sections or drop if needed. Every student at Carnegie Mellon engages in some sort of platform to stay on top of this information and my home page does exactly that for them. The remaining pages that are yet to be built out - plan, register, and requirements - are all additionally, if not primarily, the reasons why CMU students utilize registration platforms. They can search courses that they need to fulfill requirements, plan out their remaining semesters, and register for all of their classes at once with one simple click. The overall layout and color scheme is meant to be a tool students can use to feel they are taking advantage of their time here at CMU and can feel comforted knowing that this website helps aid their entire time here.

Relevant screenshots of assignment 3:

Welcome, USER!

Home | Plan | Register | Requirements

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67-373 IS Conulting

Professor: Prof Q   Section: 1A   Units: 10   FCEs: 6

Schedule: Wednesdays 3-5:00 pm
Fridays 11-1:00 pm

Description.....
...

Requirements Fulfilled   See All ->

Information Systems Major
Disciplinary Core

Information Systems Major
General Education

HCI Minor
Technology Core

Doherty 2110

Switch Section   Drop

These two screenshots are examples of course description pages that I molded together so that it would be consistent throughout the website and not drastically different.

Welcome, USER!

Home | Plan | Register | Requirements

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54-121 Computing

Professor: Prof S   Units: 6   FCEs: 3

Description.....
...

Requirements Fulfilled

BS in Info. Systems
Disciplinary Core

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00 am					
9:00 am	57-132		57-132		
11:00 am	54-121 Computing	67-443	54-121 Computing		67-373 IS Consulting
1:00 pm				67-443	
3:00 pm			67-373 IS Consulting		
4:00 pm					
6:00 pm					

Fall 2023 ▼

Sections:
- ● A   MW 11-1:30 pm
- ○ B   TF 11-1:30 pm
- ○ C   WF 11-1:30 pm
- ○ D   WF 10-12:30 pm
- ○ E   ThF 9-11:30 pm

Add

Remove