Web Design Review

This is an in-class group project with a presentation. You will need to manage your time well and work together quickly to review an assigned public web site and prepare a short (no more than 5 minute) presentation in about 15 minutes.

Sites to Review

The website you will review will be selected from this list:

- www.arm.gov
- www.sedonalibrary.org
- www.bostonglobe.com

- www.alistapart.com
- www.japantimes.co.jp
- www.ideamatic.net

- www.dcmm.org
- www.telework.gov

Review as a Group

Make sure you know who the members of your group are by name. You will need to know later when you grade each other on participation and teamwork.

Look at the site as a group - make sure that you all work together. It's ok to have one person lead, but everyone should feel like they contribute. No one should feel like one person did all the work, or that someone coasted along for a free-ride.

Evaluate your assigned site against the design principles and checklist from Chapter 3. Check the list of things below that I expect you to mention in your presentation. Try not to focus on personal likes or dislikes, at least not without backing it up with a good design principle the site has or doesn't have. Imagine you are giving your "professional" feedback to the company or organization itself as well as the creator of the page.

The Presentation

Five minutes. That's all the time you get. Be quick and to the point, but be clear and be professional. It's up to your group whether you want to have one person talk or split the time, but it should be "one" review. You may want to make notes to ensure you cover the key points.

There are a few things you should specifically cover:
- Quickly introduce **the entire group** to the class.
- Who is the target audience? Do you think it will appeal to that group? Why?
- On the main page, is the *key* information visible when you first view the page or must you scroll?
- Does the site display consistently across Chrome, IE, and Firefox?
- If you resize the browser window to tablet size (width between 480 and 768) and phone size (width less than 480), is the site responsive? (Do you have to scroll to see the information in the smaller window, or does the site "respond" and reformat the information to be clearly seen in the smaller browser viewport?) **You should actually show this by resizing the browser window for the class.**

Once you have covered these key points, you are free to call out any other good or bad aspects as related to the design principles from Chapter 3. You should **comment on at least 3-4 other design aspects**. Make sure to not be only negative. Odds are that even the worst site has done something well. Refer to the checklist on pages 94 & 95 if you are short on ideas.

Make Up Assignment

Write up a 750-1000 word design review for one of the assigned web sites below (choose one):

- www.dcmm.org
- www.telework.gov
- www.arm.gov
- www.sedonalibrary.org

- www.bostonglobe.com
- www.alistapart.com
- www.japantimes.co.jp
- www.ideamatic.net

Just like for the presentation, there are a few things you should specifically cover in your write-up:

- Quickly introduce the site and its purpose
- Who is the target audience? Do you think it will appeal to that group? Why or why not?
- On the main page, is the key information visible when you first view the page or must you scroll?
- Does the site display consistently across Chrome, IE, and Firefox?
- If you resize the browser window to tablet size (width between 480 and 768) and then to phone size (width less than 480), is the site responsive? (Do you have to scroll to see the information in the smaller window, or does the site "respond" and reformat the information to be clearly seen in the smaller browser viewport?)   You should actually show this by resizing the browser window, taking screenshots and including these in the document.

Once you have covered these key points, you are free to call out any other good or bad aspects as related to the design principles from Chapter 3. You should **discuss at least 3-4 other design aspects**. **Use screenshots to illustrate your points.** Make sure to identify something that is positive and at least one thing that could be improved. Refer to the checklist at the end of Chapter 3 if you are short on ideas.