

Final Project Journal – Benjamin Rimedio

Deployed site:

<https://ioctlopus.github.io/>

GitHub Repo:

<https://github.com/ioctlopus/ioctlopus.github.io>

Video:

https://media.pdx.edu/media/t/1_0dkiri8e

The initial page was built using a very similar Bootstrap navbar to the one we created in class. Using container-fluid, navbar-brand, and navbar-toggle, I created a navbar with links to each section (About, Previous Works, Projects, and Contact). Scrollspy was a nice addition, highlighting which page section was currently active as the user scrolls. I also added a navbar toggle button using Bootstrap.

I linked to blank stylesheets and JavaScript files to start, focusing on getting the main page built with Bootstrap. The Bootstrap documentation was wildly helpful for the vast majority of my styling decisions.

Once the main page was built, I began work on the About section. Finding a way to align my image with the text was more difficult than I expected. I settled on adding custom CSS that would add significant margins and padding to my <h2> tags. I used Bootstrap's rounded-circle class to style my image. I additionally chose to make the body of my page use Times New Roman, as I have always loved that font.

Adding id attributes at this stage was crucial, allowing me to link the navbar list items to each section. I began work on the Previous Works section. Initially, I chose to simply add an tag with a snapshot of my resume. I changed this approach later, which caused many issues. Because I ultimately chose to explore embedding PDF files, I decided to research how to use JavaScript and Bootstrap to make a button that would hide/show the embedded PDF. What I did not expect were the many accessibility issues PDF files introduce. As a result, I learned a ton of interesting features of Bootstrap and its classes that allow collapsible content, but I also learned that PDF files have to be manually audited for accessibility, and that WAVE would never remove alerts relating to PDF files. By using the collapse class and creating JavaScript functions that change the contents of the button, I was able to finally implement a collapsible PDF embed. I used a variety of Bootstrap documents to help with the CSS and JavaScript that led to the ultimately functional collapsible PDF button.

The form was my next task. By adding classes like mb-3 to each form element and py-5 to the section for padding, I let Bootstrap take care of a lot of the styling for my form. Here, I also learned about the <textarea> tag and its usefulness when creating contact forms. Accessibility was a major issue in my original form, leading to a better understanding of value and id as crucial attributes. I chose to use JavaScript to give a message to the user when the form was submitted. The submit button triggers a simple function that alerts the user, using their name, that the form has been submitted. Additionally, I added JavaScript to make sure no form fields were left empty.

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The Projects section was my last major task. Deciding which projects to include was difficult. I chose to only use school projects from previous CS courses for privacy reasons. I used the col-md-4 Bootstrap class to create three side-by-side columns. The content describes each project and provides links to the respective GitHub repos.

Fixing accessibility issues was frustrating. Simply skipping header levels required fixes. As a result, I had to manually adjust each heading level's styles. Some of these alerts seem to be excessive and unnecessary.

Some simple styling fixes allowed me to create a “dark” theme for my site. I also fixed a few centering issues with text and various <div>s. This marked the end of my significant reworks and led me to rewrite this journal accordingly. AntiqueWhite was a nice choice for color against a black background.

Sources:

The main source I used was the Bootstrap documentation:

<https://getbootstrap.com>

For a few tricky questions I had about some of the Bootstrap and CSS, as well as the collapsible PDF, I used StackOverflow:

<https://stackoverflow.com/>

I also used our previous assignments and course materials.