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PUI Homework 8

Write Up

## **Part A | Describe your website**

The main purpose of my website is to showcase my work online for potential employers to see my architecture and HCI portfolio. It is also meant for my own record to maintain all my work compiled into one place, both on a website and on my computer in arranged folders. There are architectural drawings, images of models or process work and description text conveyed in the website. In addition to my work, I hope it will also convey a sense of style and perhaps even personality (clean, simple and straight-forward).

My website is engaging because of the variety of my work, shown through images and simple animations that present them rather than overshadow them. I didn't want to present my work in a format similar to a blog (with images and text wrapped around them). To make my website interesting, I wanted the user to keep looking for more content and keep exploring, instead of presenting it all at once. Thus, it is up to the user when they want to change focus and what they want to change focus to.

My target audience are employers, family and friends. For employers, the web portfolio is a place to view my work in more detail since there are restrictions to hard-copy portfolios or online portfolio submissions, such as maximum pages or maximum file size. That means only the most important content carefully selected should be presented. On the other hand, I am able to show more content on a web portfolio because there are less restrictions for me. For family and friends, the web portfolio is for them to keep updated with what I am doing.

*\*Note: Only the first project "Data-Driven Environmental Displays" is linked and coded for content. The other projects do not have individual project pages yet. The way the content is displayed will be the same, but since there are a lot of images to go through and resize, for the purpose of this assignment, I have decided to only do one project and focus on the animations and formatting.*

## Part B | How the user interacts with website

*Note: → means it will lead to a change in page*

### Landing page

- Watch quick animations that shows who I am
  - End of SVG animation will show animation to prompt user to click “enter”
    - → Click the “enter” button to move to next page

### Projects page

- Option 1: Cards
  - Scroll up/down to see images of all projects that are revealed horizontally
    - Hover over the images to see the project name, brief descriptions and date/semester of project
      - → Click on the card to enter individual project page
- Option 2: Navigation Bar
  - Click to expand the menus
    - → Click on names without “+” sign will go to individual project page
- → Click on the circle with the “+” sign on the top right corner to see “about me”
  - → Click on the links on the left column for more (currently, only Instagram is linked since my resume and LinkedIn is still work-in-progress)
    - → Click on the “x” sign (animation changes it) to close pop-up modal
- → Click on my name on the top left to return to landing page

### Individual project page

- Scroll up/down to see images and text
- → Click on the circle with the “+” sign on the top right corner to see “about me”
  - → Click on the links on the left column for more (currently, only Instagram is linked since my resume and LinkedIn is still work-in-progress)
    - → Click on the “x” sign (animation changes it) to close pop-up modal
- Click on the hamburger icon to open the navigation bar
  - Click to expand the menus
    - → Click on names without “+” sign will go to another individual project page
    - Click on the arrow to close the navigation bar
  - → Click on “My Works” to go back to the project page
- → Click on my name on the top left to return to landing page

## Part C | Description of external tools

### SVG Animation

- I chose to use it to minimise the flatness of the images and text on the landing page. I originally used photos and plain text, but there wasn't a design element to it and didn't seem to capture attention.
- I contrasted the white of the svg animation with a black background that had some white lines to add another layer of depth (line weight, fill and contrast) to the landing page. I did this by creating the vectors on illustrator, using the svg code in the html and finally using the keyframes animation in css to change the look and speed of the animation.
- With the animation that draws the outlines of my name and contour lines of myself, it is able to capture the viewer's attention and slow down the viewer for 3 seconds to understand whose web portfolio they are looking at.

### Bootstrap Collapse

[https://www.w3schools.com/bootstrap/bootstrap\\_collapse.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/bootstrap/bootstrap_collapse.asp)

- I used the bootstrap collapse formatting to help with my navigation bar.
- I chose to use this because I wanted the viewer to be able to see all the different types of categories of work and the names of projects that I've done, but I didn't want to show it all at one go because it defeats the purpose of letting the user navigate my site. It also helps me better organise my work for when I add more projects in the future, kind of like a table of contents.
- Just in case viewers don't want to scroll and hover through everything for whatever reason, they can go to individual project pages from the navigation bar for quick access.

### Parallax

[https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto\\_css\\_parallax.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto_css_parallax.asp)

- I wanted to showcase my work in a style different from a blog because I didn't want the user to immediately be overwhelmed with a bunch of images and text.
- I used parallax kind of like frames of the process of my work, so each "frame" has one image and maybe some text.
- The purpose is to reveal my work with each scroll from the user so that it is up to the user to see the information. Parallax allows viewers to absorb the content more by manipulating the amount of time they spend on the content instead of quickly scrolling down and skimming and scanning the content.

### CSS Animations

- Transformations (rotations, translations, scaling), Pop-up modals, Hover effects
- I used these animations to indicate a change, to indicate where the user's mouse is or to redirect the user's attention.
- For example, the "enter" animation prompts the user to move on to the next page and the "+" sign that rotates into "x" sign shows how to get more/less information.

#### **Part D | Description of iteration from homework 7 InVision prototype**

- Added a landing page instead of immediately opening my website to see all the project images
- Rearranged the way I wanted to present the project page (no longer presenting everything at once and no more small view/large view)
  - Currently: small view is project page, large view is individual project page with parallax
- Used parallax instead of click on small arrow buttons to navigate through the images
  - Similar to the old design (one image per “frame”) but adds interaction for the user because they can scroll to reveal text or the next image so it is more continuous and story-telling instead of just plain showing.

#### **Part E | Challenges**

- Images
  - Formatting images that were different sized into divs
  - Responsiveness without stretching the image disproportionately
  - Image file size causing lag to the animation
- Scrolling
  - Spent very long to figure out how to get the webpage to respond horizontally when the scrolled vertically on the trackpad/mouse (needed to use listen to event, which also had different event names for different browsers)