

Innovation Report

The ability to create a website using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, etc. could prove to be very useful and essential to work in a library. Libraries can't always afford to have an outside institution come and create a website from scratch for them. Therefore, having library staff that can code and create a website that is usable and attractive is very valuable. This also gives the power and skill in the hands of library staff to change and alter the website as needed. The more that can be done in house, the better.

Coding skills could also provide an opportunity for library staff to create websites that will help patrons search for and access different databases and/or resources for research purposes. This could improve the experience of library patrons as they will have the means to search exactly what they are looking for, instead of trying to describe it to library staff working at the reference desk. Any tools that can aid patrons in finding materials that they are looking for, while freeing time for library staff to get other tasks completed, is a great innovation. While I don't think a website could or should replace the services that the reference desk provides, I think it's good to offer as many options for searching as possible to patrons.

The skills and technologies learned in this course are important, and are often sought after by many employers. The freedom and ability to create a website from scratch provides many opportunities for library staff to get creative and intelligent with their design. I truly think these are great skills to have, and hope to learn more about them and get to use them in the future.