

## CS 1520 Class Project

Changes since part 1:

- Entire website rewritten using PHP
  - All pages that were previously in static HTML format have been converted to dynamic PHP with server-side preprocessing and scripting
- Use of PHP includes for consistent single-file header and footer
  - Previously the header and footer had to be copied and pasted into each page. Using PHP includes means one file for the header and another for the footer, meaning less redundancy and easier updates.
- Use of PHP to connect to MySQL database for form interactivity
  - Filling out the form on the “Contact” page places information in a MySQL database running on the server. This database can be periodically checked for new entries.
- Implemented working JavaScript form-validation
  - A JavaScript function detects missing information in the contact form and alerts the user that the form is incomplete.
- Improved website styles and visuals
  - A simple CSS animation fades page contents into view. Each page has a relevant background image that scales to fit the browser window. Font color and style is customized.

Since the first part of the project only required a static website with HTML and client-side JavaScript, there wasn't much I could do to make it what it is now. After finishing this version of the website I learned how to use object-oriented PHP to establish a connection to a MySQL database and add content to it. I also learned that repetitive sections of a website such as headers can be made into a separate file that can be added to a page as necessary using PHP includes. I learned more about what can be done with CSS, such as scaling images and implementing page transition effects.