

Syllabus for Content Management System Development--Wordpress

Spring 2016 - WEBI 2000

The instructor reserves the right to change or modify any or the entire syllabus due to individual student or class needs, schedule interruptions, or any other event or events that may happen.

Course Title: Content Management System Development--Wordpress

Course Number: WEBI 2000

Discipline: Web Design and Interactive Media

Course Credits: 3

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: WEBI 1416, WEBI 1611.

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3PM – 5PM

Instructor: Carl Namyst

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Course Description

This course explores Content Management Systems (CMS) for publishing content to the web. You will learn configuration and customization of WordPress. You will also learn other CMS solutions.

Students Contributions and Requirements

Students are expected to attend classes and participate in discussions and classroom activities. Your grade will depend on your interaction during class and completion of all assigned class work.

Students are also expected to read assigned text materials and complete previously assigned tasks before attending classes. If a session is missed, you are still responsible to be prepared and have assignments done for the following session. Check with other students regarding content of the session, and what is due in the upcoming session. Assignments are available online.

Course Objectives

1. CMS Overview and Installation
 - a. CMS Types and Dependencies
 - b. Web Hosting Options
 - c. CMS Installation and Configuration
2. Working with Content
 - a. Managing Files and Media
 - b. Creating Posts
 - c. Creating Pages
3. Extending CMS
 - a. Installing and Configuring Themes
 - b. Installing Plugins
 - c. Developing Child Themes, Custom Themes and Plugins
 - d. Creating and Using Widgets
4. CMS Maintenance and Security
 - a. Installing CMS Updates
 - b. CMS Backup and Recovery

Texts

WordPress: The Missing Manual 2nd Edition
ISBN-13: 978-1449341909

Instruction will include on-line readings.

Materials

Students working off campus must set up a computer with specific software and Internet access.
Students must have:

- A text editor such as Aptana Studio, simple text, Note Pad, BB Edit, Bluefish, Coda, HTML-Kit, NVU, Text Wrangler, Sublime Text
- (AppleWord, Word Perfect, Microsoft Word should not be used)
- A functional Internet connection.
- Safari, FireFox, Chrome browsers
- FTP Client (Filezilla)
- MAMP, WAMP or LAMP

CLASS POLICIES:

Class Cancellation

*Whatever the circumstances, in the event of a canceled class students should consider that time block as an opportunity for a laboratory experience.

*In the event of my absence, there is no reason why you can't continue with your class work. You can work together with the other students or you may utilize the computer lab on your own. I will make every effort to provide an assignment in advance or via email or a Web site and you should complete the assignment before the following class.

Grading

Points will be converted to letter grades using the following formula:

A = 90 - 100% B = 80 - 89% C = 70 - 79% D = 60 - 69% F = 0-59%

Your grade will also be based upon your participation in class activities.

Your final grade for the course will be based on the following criteria (Note weights are approximate):

	Weight	Points
Final Project:	12.5%	50pts
Midterm Project	12.5%	50pts
Weekly Projects:	35%	13 Assignments @ 10pts each = 130pts
Participation:	25%	16 Weeks @ 5pts each = 80pts
Quizzes:	15%	14 Weeks @ 5pts each = 70pts

Course and College Policies:

Important Dates to Remember:

Last Day to Add Full Term Courses – August 28, 2015

Last Day to Drop Full Term Courses – August 28, 2015

Last Day to Withdraw Full Term Courses – November 25, 2015

Academic Progress Standards

You are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average and complete 67% of your coursework.

Beginning Fall 2011, students whose cumulative GPA and Completion Rate do not meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements will be put on "warning" status. If your cumulative GPA and Completion Rate do not meet requirements the following term, you will be put on suspension.

If you are currently on academic probation, you must meet cumulative standards by the end of Fall Term.

Last Date of Attendance:

The purpose of the *Last Date of Attendance Policy* is to appropriately assess the financial liability for students, ensure good stewardship of financial aid funds and limit the financial liability for the college, and academic consequences for the student.

Last Date of Attendance shall be determined for students meeting the following criteria:

1. A student who is on the class roster but fails to attend scheduled meetings of a class or log into and participate as directed in an online course during the first week of the course; or
2. A student who has missed all scheduled meetings of a class within a two week time frame or has not participated as stated in the syllabus without contacting the college course instructor; or
3. A student in an online course who has not participated as stated in the syllabus and/or accessed online class materials and/or the faculty member has not received any communication or assignments from the student within a period of fourteen calendar days; or
4. A student who has missed a minimum of one-eighth of a short term course (including summer term courses) without contacting the college course instructor.

Incompletes

I expect that you will not ask me for an Incomplete in this course except in a rare or extreme emergency situation. If an Incomplete is to be granted, you must have over 75% of the work-to-date for this course successfully completed, be in good standing in the class, and prepare and sign a formal written contract with me specifying the work to be done and due dates. In the event that this work is not completed, the grade of Incomplete will automatically convert to an "F."

Student Conduct

*I expect that you have read and will behave in accordance with the "Student Code of Conduct" guidelines found in the MCTC Student Handbook. I expect that you will be respectful of each other, our diverse backgrounds and experiences, and of our educational purpose.

*I expect that you will turn off or leave elsewhere cell phones.

*I expect that you will bring no food or drink into the computer lab.

*I expect that you will shut down your computer and push in your chair before leaving class.

*I expect you to uphold MCTC's standard of conduct relating to academic dishonesty and assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of the academic work you hand in. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that any work you submit--exams, reports, assignments and projects--must be your own work. The penalty for violations can be severe. Any student violating the honor code will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. If you are unclear about whether a particular situation may constitute an honor code violation, please meet with me to discuss the situation.

What You Can Expect From Me

*I will respect you as an individual and as a student and do everything I am able to create a positive learning environment for you.

*I will facilitate any accommodations you might need for a disability and will give you any support I can.

*I will do my best to make learning enjoyable!

Technology

Since this is an Internet course, this course will be utilizing Internet technology as our primary communications medium. In addition to email; you will be expected to make use of D2L to check on grades, quizzes, class assignments, updates, examples and hints.

Web Hosting: You will need to sign up for a web hosting account through 1and1.com to publish your work. Please see the Web Hosting document posted on the D2L news section for details. Your account will include a username and password. Make sure you record these in a safe place. You will need them on a daily bases. If you already have hosting space through a company other than 1and1.com, you may use this for hosting your class projects. Keep in mind; I will not be able to support you with hosting other than 1and1.com. Other instructors may require a 1and1.com hosting account based on their project requirements. All work is required to be published to your hosting account with validation logos before grading. Failure to set up your hosting account immediately will result in late assignments. This is the leading cause of failure in this class.

Internet Access: Besides your email address, you will need to spend a good deal of time on the Internet to meet the requirements of this class.

Email: You must sign up for a school email account. You will use this account to correspond with me for various reasons. Personal email accounts from other providers like gmail or hotmail, might end up in my spam folder. Signing up for an email account through the school will insure our correspondence.

Saving: If you are working on a computer, save your work every 10 to 15 minutes. Create at least one back-up disk of all your work to prevent permanent loss of data. Do not wait until the last minute to do your work! You can't rely on the college lab facilities to be open or even working the night before, much less an hour before, class begins.

Backup: You are responsible for retaining backups of the digital work you submit in class. Digital files are always at risk from bad disks, server crashes, and instructor's misfiling. If your file disappears, I'll expect you to provide a backup version. Losing computer disks or files will not excuse you from completing assignments or handing them in on time. Consider an off-site backup solution like dropbox. **BACK UP YOUR WORK!**

Version Control: Save incremental backups of your work at least every class period. This will provide you a way of getting back to a file that was created previous to major changes.

Projects

Weekly projects carry a maximum combined score of ten points. Grades will be posted on D2L. All weekly projects will be graded after the following class period in which they were assigned. Late Projects will be deducted -2 points per class session. Projects will not be accepted if they are more than two sessions late.

All projects in this class including the final will be published to the web. It is your responsibility to make sure you are not in violation of copyright law. Make sure you own or have permission to use all content used in your projects for this class.

Quizzes

The purpose of the quizzes is to keep you on task in reading the textbook. Quizzes carry a maximum score of five points. You have the whole week to complete the assigned quiz. You also have 2 attempts to enter the correct answer. Online quizzes will be closed at the beginning of class a week after they were assigned.

Readings

Every week you will have various readings from a variety of sources.

Class Participation

Attendance will be taken in the first ten minutes of the class period. Five participation points will be awarded to students that are present at roll call and use the entire class period effectively. If you are late, you will lose participation points for the class period. If you miss more than four classes in a semester, you will not pass the class.

As stated in the projects section, your weekly projects will be graded after the following class period in which they are assigned. However, if you leave class early, I will assume you have finished the weekly project. In this case, the weekly project will be graded immediately.

Midterm and Final Projects

You are required to demo your midterm and final projects to the class. You are also required to participate in a critique of your fellow classmate's websites.