WebF Discovery Log Joe Dinnage

**Week 1 / 2**

<p>Throughout these 2 weeks we discussed managing our time and problems final year students faced, I learnt from this lesson the importance of organisation and additional studies to ensure I was able to cope with the workload. I also learnt about the different support and help services the Uni offers.</p>

<p>Week 2 also focused on web security and how information is generated by us daily, we began to talk about the concerns of security behind our data. We also discussed how we expose information daily like location via apps and our names through sign up forms.</p>

<p>We also began playing around with our virtual machines and how to set up and upload a website for future coursework.</p>

**Week 3**

<p>For this week we began setting up virtual machines to help us with the upcoming coursework and discussed web security and the measures companies and organisations can make to ensure their data’s safety.</p>

<p>We also began to expand our academic writing skills to benefit us throughout university. We were also officially introduced to the coursework question and began exploring what this seemingly vague sentence means and how we could produce a 1000 word Literature review on it. We started to expose common ideas and themes and list different topics and quotes that I would be using in my literature.</p>

<p> We then began writing down three sets of search terms that we would be using to find literature from. The library website was one of my primary sources of information. Wikipedia was not as viable because of the freedom to edit that anyone can have as a user of the website other than to gather concepts as a starting point. We then read and evaluated the sources we found allowing us to gain a better understanding of this new topic.</p>

**Week 4**

<p>For this week we discussed the uses of the local library and how to reference our literature.</p>

<p>They also taught us about the APA v6 citation style which is the appropriate way to cite our sources for the coursework. </p>

<p> We were also given some specific sentences which we were asked to alter and change to meet a more academic literature form that was better use for a literature review. Changing a words formality improved the overall presentability of the work. </p>

**Week 5**

<p> This week we learnt about ways that organisations can mitigate cooperate information on the web, this helped us in formulating the foundations of our literature review, and this consisted of structure, content and legibility and include references that are primary and well cited. We were also warned not to use personal writing. </p>

<p> We also began looking at how to code HTML and making basic websites, we also began taking advantage of our virtual machines to upload our websites to the internet. We were also introduced to atom which we would be using to design and code our websites and how to use the many features it offers over notepad++. </p>

**Week 6**

<p> We began learning about HTML and mark-up. We learnt about how the mark-up works with the World Wide Web and the symbols and codes it uses. We were also introduced to Atom, the software we would be coding our website with. We also learnt how to upload it to winscp and use the vm ip addressing. </p>

<p> We also began looking at the difference between descriptive and procedural mark-up and observed the advantages of descriptive mark-up like ease of maintenance, smaller size and increased semantic coding. We also began working with CSS and trying to understand how it works with our HTML files. </p>

**Week 7**

<p> Literature Review Coursework submission deadline. </p>

**Week 8**

<p> For this week we were looking at the design of a website and looking at different designs that would fit the certain demographics that would be using it. For this coursework my peers would be using the website so this means I will have to create a design that is suitable for use by other computer science students. </p>

**Week 9**

<p> For this week we were looking at inserting images into our HTML projects and how we could present said images onto our webpage, this is important is it is required for our next coursework that we use multiple images throughout our website. We started using CSS to present our images and experimenting with the positioning and size of the image to use for our websites. </p>

<p> We could also start looking at more complex aspects like animated pictures and varying the size of the picture depending on the size of the window which would help to increase our marks in the coursework. </p>

**Week 10**

<p> For this week we were tasked with creating a Christmas advent calendar using CSS and HTML to help hone our skills at using Atom, the calendar would contain many advanced features like an opening animation giving it a powerful 3D perspective. This gave me a great outlook on what the potential of my website can have and the potential of HTML overall. </p>

**Week 11**

<p> This week we explored standards within our web pages which is crucial for our coursework, in order to do this, we had to work with the standards so that we could then apply these to our websites. We visited the HTML5 recommendations description that details HTML elements like I, b and em and compared the description to its use on the webpage. This meant we could compare what we saw with its meaning in the specification. </p>

<p> We also compared inserting paragraph tags into the CSS and the different styles we could produce. This helped to show us how the paragraph can be influenced and how it will be displayed on our website. We then learnt how to check our basic HTML and CSS elements with the validators to see if any errors were present. Doing this early on and constantly helps to prevent more problems and more fatal problems in the future. </p>

**Week 12**

<p> This week we looked at addressing on the web. The lecture looked at core principles of addressing like scheme of address, hostnames and DNS. We also looked at subfolders and caveat. The practical developed this by showing us addressing in HTML and the different functions you can change to format a link and how to form a URL using the anchor tags to place links. By doing this we could make webpages that linked to other webpages we created. </p>

**Week 13**

<p> This week we looked at usability on our websites and how it affects the user in this case our peers will be the end user. If the usability of a website is good, it will be seen overall as a better website regardless of content. The lecture talked further about the usability methods and how they can be adopted into our webpage. </p>

<p> The second task was to look at and read usability reviews using a User Focus website. This summarised all the usability standards we should be following to create a well-designed webpage. We also had to gain some knowledge in responsive and adaptive design patterns. This meant the change of the layout depending on the size of the screen and making sure little to no horizontal scrolling was required. </p>

**Week 14**

<p> This week we looked at accessibility within a web page and how it affects users. There are many tools that can check websites for accessibility tools however accessibility is always subject to humans and what they require which can’t be accurately checked by a program as everyone has different requirements. </p>

<p> In our small groups we had to simulate physical impairment with props and then tested these impairments on websites like ours and a BBC accessibility webpage to see how easy it was to use the website with a physical impairment. We recorded whether certain websites passed or failed our tests and concluded how accessible they were. </p>

**Week 15**

<p> In this week’s lesson we experimented with Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG). This is a powerful tool that helps us to create images for a website. Using coordinates and coding we can make shapes and images like company logos and patterns. Ink scape is an easier method of creating SVGs but is much larger in file size than coding the SVG from scratch. </p>