

Assignment 7: Final Project

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Part 1

What is the purpose of your website?

The purpose of my website is to show people who I am, both academically and non-academically. Since I'm interested in and have experience with both the design side and the dev side of things, I want to let people see both sides of me, as well as some other fun things I've done.

What information do you convey with your website?

I firstly want to present basic information about me - for example, who I am, where I go to school, what are my majors and minors, what I am interested in, etc. Then, I want to include the projects I've done (though I might not have enough time to include all of them in this project), with the very detailed process of how each project was done and what kind of things we created.

How is it interesting and engaging?

The about-me and projects pages look more like the usual personal portfolio websites we've seen - since it's a personal portfolio, I still want to make it clean and professional and conveys the right messages to people. However, I added the "fun things" section, where I put together some pictures of my calligraphy work and added some cool animations.

Who is the target audience?

The target audience is anyone who wants to know about me, but this portfolio would be more focused on a professional point of view, so that my future peers or colleagues would better know what I have done and what I am interested in.

Part 2

Use a bulleted list to describe how a user would interact with your website

- For the home and about-me page, click on different parts of the navigation bar to navigate between the two pages.
- There's an extra item on the navigation bar of the about-me page, which scrolls to the projects section of the page if you click on it.
- At the bottom of each page, there is a go-to-top feature, so that you can click on the little arrow and it will automatically scroll to the top.
- On each project page, there is a navigation bar that helps you navigate to different sections of the page - when you click on a section, it will smoothly scroll to that section of the page.
- On each project page, there is a carousel where you can click to the left and right to see the selection of pictures relevant to this project.
- On the fun-things page, you can hover your mouse over each picture, and it will enlarge; when your mouse gets out of the area, it will automatically get back to the initial size.

Part 3

Name of tool

I used anime.js, which is a javascript library for beautiful animations

Who do you choose to use it?

Since I want to make my personal portfolio website nice yet still professional without being too fancy, I wanted to add some cool animations that serve basic functionalities. The animations available in the anime.js library are quite nice and useful.

How did you use it?

I first downloaded some example code from the website to play around with it, and then figured out which kind of animation did I want to actually use for my portfolio, then added that critical part to my code.

What does it add to your website?

It adds beautiful visual transitions to the website - some user interactions are smoother and look nicer than the basic Javascript and JQuery animations, yet users can still easily figure out how to interact.

Part 4

Describe how you iterated on your HW6 mockups, if at all, including any changes you made to your original design while you were implementing your website.

Since the original design contains too many pages, I got rid of the large number of different projects on both the design side and the dev side, and only picked one project for each category to implement. Also, I feel like the theme of "places I've been to" is a slightly cliché, so I mainly focused on my calligraphy work in the fun-things section.

Part 5

What challenges did you experience in implementing your website?

First of all, creating a page for a project and clearly explain what's going on is already a challenge itself. I was able to figure out a way to organize different sections in a nice and organized way. Also, the animation was really hard to add - getting started with the library was already a decent amount work and making the animations work well with my intended functionalities were also challenging.