Final Project Report

# Goals and Purpose

The main purpose of designing this website is that I have rent a domain name called lening.li which matches exactly my name, and the rent fee would not be wasted only if I put some meaningful and interesting content on that website. For the goal of showing my life to the world, since I am an open individual, my basic information and daily life would be displayed through pictures, test and etc.

On my social media, I would release my personal website URL to the public, so anyone who follows me or is a friend of mine could directly go to my website. I believe that my friends and followers on the social media would be the primary audience. Also on my personal website, the education experience and other work related information would be shown, the recruiter of some companies would take that as a reference, since when I was applying some positions, the personal website URL was encouraged to be filled.

# Implementation

For this final project, I implemented three pages including homepage, and other two secondary pages.

I would like to attach my website link here: <http://cs12students.dce.harvard.edu/~lli/xiaoli_1924/personal_website/parts/index.php>

<http://cs12students.dce.harvard.edu/~lli/xiaoli_1924/personal_website/parts/personal.php>

<http://cs12students.dce.harvard.edu/~lli/xiaoli_1924/personal_website/parts/traveled_places.php>

PHP is used in this final project, all small parts are starched out the main frame, so you are able to see that all files are well organized. In my final project, I divided webpages into several parts and use the PHP command to include those parts. PHP is a good way to keep website content consistent. If I want to make some change to a navigation, I do not need to change all markup for all pages, I just simply change that part, and all pages’ markup would be changed.

Also for the convenience, I use the Bootstrap to design the layout. I divided the page to several parts such as title, main content, and etc. Using Bootstrap, you can easily add the class name, the Bootstrap will do the rest of the work for you.

For some fantastic fonts I used, I linked the Google library and display it, which is significantly great. So the font of your website would kept constant, no matter which platform such as Window or Mac you are using.

The travelled places page is the page I would like to highly emphasis on. In this page, the Google map library is applied and markers are placed on the world map, which helps to show the places I have been to. Also in the bottom of the page, a similar photo gallery is implemented using swipebox. Here is a function which written by myself that all the photos in a directory would be displayed in that division. So if I want to post a new photo, simple way to do that is just add this new photo to that directory, and the rest of the work like markup will be done by the code.

Also some fancy icon is used in this final project, I found that there are some awesome icons existing if the Bootstrap font-awesome library is used. The way it is used looks very familiar with the Bootstrap. Class name is added to help you add the icon.

# Future Directions

Even though right now this website is functional simply, there is still a lot of work need to be done. In the future, I would like to implement all the rest pages which I already put on the navigation.

A technology blog will be set up, since I am a programmer who is really desiring to be an expert, I would like to learn and post some videos to teach people who also want to be an experienced programmer just like me.

A post page would be implemented, which would show what I am doing recently. Personally, I think that this page is really important. The reason is that as the time goes, people easily forget what happened, so a tool or a page, similar with a dairy with unlimited pages, is desperately required. I would to log all my happiness and sadness in case of losing my memory. And probably ten years or twenty years later, when I review it, that would refresh my memory.

A search page is going to be applied with a simply tool which I still have no clue. But this searching would be limited within this website.

Also I want to add a form which people normally see in the button of the website. People can give some feedback or the comment back to me. So they are able to leave their names and contact info. And I can reach them as soon as possible.

# Reflect on lessons you learned

In this final project, the Google Map Library is working well. So does the swipebox. People who visit my personal website are clearly able to see that those locations.

The traveled places is the most I am proud of. I implemented a function to make adding the picture very easy. Also putting so many markers on the world map takes a lot of time, which worth it. Also the index page is very beautiful even though that is very simple.

Those three pages still need additional work. The design still could be improved. Also, in the tech-blog page. I would like to implement a template. So every time I do not need to write all the markup and CSS but the content of the blog.

If I was to approach this project again, I think I would like to do the same thing. First, building a personal website was in my mind for a very long time. And also teaching people how to program is my dream. The structure of this website is a result of long time and careful consideration. Also this is just a personal website, I do not make it very complicated and just keep it small scale.