Final Project Explanation Lilly Thompson

CS 142 Advanced Web Design: CSS and Usability

June 26, 2014

For my final project, I decided to redesign my final project from CS 008. Basically, I wanted to make a more professional looking photography website for myself. I decided right off the bat that I wanted to use up more of the window space. I usually always go for a more centered design for my websites, but seeing my peers' designs the last few weeks got me interested in trying something new. Taking up more space also allowed me to make the font a bit bigger and therefore increase the readability of the website.

The next thing I wanted to tackle was coming up with a more professional color scheme that added flavor to the design without making it too loud. My CS 008 color scheme was very bright and loud, so I went with a deeper purple and used transparency to organically create shades of the same color. I think the colors are a bit nicer on the eyes and make for a more professional look.

I also added a strip of links across the bottom of the page, so you don't always have to scroll back up to go to a different page.

Originally, I wanted to come up with a better way to showcase my photos other than the grid that I used in CS 008. Unfortunately, I didn't have enough time to spend hours figuring out how to use JavaScript to create a clean, professional, and modern way to present the photos. I decided instead to space out the, what I call thumbnails, and add a scroll over background color change to highlight which photo the user is looking at. I think the lighter color around the photos draws the user's attention to the photos, similar to the effect a white border has when placed around a drawing or painting. It also indicates that they are links.

I hadn't really changed anything with the form or table designs in the Prints and Contact Me pages in CS 008, so I wanted to do a little something to make them more professional looking this time. I like the look of the rounded corners, so I stuck with that theme throughout the entire website design. I changed the background colors of the "Color" and "Black & White" titles in the two tables to help distinguish between the two. I also spaced them out a bit more and centered the font. For the form, I changed the background colors of each of the form sections to make it stand out a bit more. I also rounded the corners of the appropriate fields and made the border solid, yet subtle.