Final Project Writeup

PART 1 - Website Description 300 words

This website is a personal portfolio so its purpose is to briefly introduce myself to people. My website conveys information about (1) examples of my interests in life, such as several types of outdoor activities I like to do, (2) some projects that I have done, including research on social robots, a mobile app, a web game, and online course design, (3) and ways of knowing more about or contacting me: email, phone call, LinkedIn, GitHub, and Facebook. The website is interesting and engaging because it has a typewriting effect to attract visitors and it has three animated doors that allow visitors to choose to know which aspect of me. The target audiences are people who are interested in knowing me, particularly employers. This website is still a naive version of my portfolio, I will keep developing it along the way.

PART 2 - Interaction

Interaction type: open doors on the home page [hover+click]

How to reproduce: hover any of the three doors on the home page and then click that door (you can also do them at the same time). You will see animations of doors and be navigated to the corresponding web page.

Interaction type: view descriptions of activities/projects descriptions [hover]
How to reproduce: On the about me page or project page, hover any of the images on the right side of the page, you will see descriptions appear.

Interaction type: check and download resume [hover+click]

How to reproduce: hover and click the envelope on the upper right corner of home/about/project/contact pages. You will see my resume pop up.

Interaction type: navigate through pages with navigation bar [hover+click]

How to reproduce: hover and click "Home"/ "About" / "Projects" / "Contact" at the top of pages.

You will be directed to the corresponding web page.

Interaction type: see new tabs of LinkedIn, GitHub, Facebook pages [click] How to reproduce: click the LinkedIn/GitHub/Facebook icons on the contact page. You will be directed to the corresponding web page.

PART 3 - External Tool

Name: JQuery

Why use: It is easier to do DOM manipulation with JQuery than with vanilla JS. It is also easier to write animation with JQuery than with vanilla JS.

How to use: for example, I used \$("#" + id) to select dom elements. I also used header.removeClass("cursor") and paragraph.parent.addClass("cursor") to remove and add classes.

Name: Bootstrap

Why use: It is easier to create a grid layout with Bootstrap than with vanilla CSS. Bootstrap also has templates for navigation bar, etc.

How to use: for example, I used navbar class in Bootstrap CSS to create the navigation bar. I also used col-sm-4 in Bootstrap CSS to place doors on the home page.

PART 4 - Design Iteration

I modified the index page design from static texts to typewriting animation for attraction. I updated the navigation bar to include "About", "Projects", and "Contact" for easier navigation. I also changed the door names from "interest", "project & experiences", "contact me" to "about me", "projects", and "contact me" as suggested by a classmate from the lab.

PART 5 - Challenges

My biggest challenge was to implement the animation of doors. I tried to write the door animations in vanilla CSS. It was hard for me to write the transition of door shapes and colors. I utilized online resources to overcome this challenge. Other challenges include debugging of the JQuery code for typewriting animation, which I used developer tools and online tutorials to solve.