Final Website

Marlon Soljic

MS15RT

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Tom Brown

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I decided to build a landing page/home page for IASC1P02 – separate from that of Sakaii. I decided to do so as some classes I have had in the past, such as COSC and BIOL, had their own pages, which was something I liked for several reasons. When they had their own page, it made accessing specific things easier, as Sakai is not always intuitive. A lot of clicking is required to find what you want, and if you want to quickly check something out you have to navigate through multiple tabs and folders. On my website, admins will be able to upload announcements, weekly lab information, and lecture slides/notes, allowing students to quickly see what is important regarding the class. I enjoy sleek, modern designs, and feel like my design, in comparison to Sakai, reflects that – important information pops out at the reader, rather than the reader having to play man-hunt. I decided not to include a footer, as in my personal opinion, footers look dated and… "chunky". The content of the page *flows* to the bottom, which looks much more visually appealing, especially when scrolling the page.

I followed basic design principles, both what I've learned by my own endeavors into graphic design, and the principles laid out by C.R.A.P.

The most important element to me in web design begin with the colors and contrast (C). Web pages that have clashing colors, or contrast indexes of low value, are eye-sores – my web page was based on the color wheel and what colors contrast well with each other. My background is a slate blue, a color I personally love, with text being a light yellow. I chose yellow for two reasons; 1. I liked the "glow" effect the yellow coloring has on the text, 2. As someone who is on the computer a lot, I know how straining white/blue light is on the eye, and the yellow tint makes the text much "softer" to the eye, allowing for more enjoyable reading.

Repetition, in regards to the design of my website, is fairly basic. I went with similar or same fonts, only changing the font for the text in announcements itself – this was a stylistic reason, as I believe having too much of one font is also a bad thing. I went with Helvetica because it is also sans-serifs, so it still matches my Ostrich font, but still is just different enough to broadcast to the reader that this text is separate from the headers, and gives a different set of information. I italicized the header of the page to add more weight, trying to make it stand out more. The colors also stay the same, only ranging in slight tones of blue.

My alignment is also very basic – 90 degree corners, with text lined up together. The nav-bar is also in the center so the user doesn't have to move their head too much – all of the important information is straight in front of them. Text reads fluidly from left to right.

The proximity of everything is close in nature, and this is to keep the flow of information steady. If the announcements are spread too far apart, users might miss something.

I chose this design because I like the colors, fluidity of the information, and how simple it is. I can't stand it when a website has 100 different pages or things to click. UI should always be as intuitive and simple as possible, and information should not be hard to find. I took some inspiration from the COSC website (https://www.cosc.brocku.ca/) but modernized it with some much needed color and design principles (added clock, rollover effect, etc). Of course, there are a few things missing, as this is more of a proof of concept a la 3 pages. For release, I would add an assignments submission page, and a chat room for students to discuss homework and help their peers.