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IST 263: Final Website Design

The current Yellowstone National Park website is a complete mess. It looks like it came right out the 90’s. I think the worst part about the entire website is the navigation bar. When you put your mouse over the bar, it just screws everything up pretty bad. That’s why I decided to start my redesign with the navigation bar. I made it so the navigation bar would be fixed at the top of the website when you would scroll down the page. This is so the navigation bar is easily accessible and you can access any part of the page directly from wherever you are located on the page. I added an auto-scroll feature to my webpage by clicking on the navigation bar. This would bring you directly to the part of the web page you want to go to with one click. I also chose to go for a very white theme. This helps to give off a modern feel to the webpage, which I thought the current Yellowstone webpage was lacking on. My mostly white color scheme gives off a simple yet sophisticated look. One of my favorite features that I added was the use of “.fadeIn” for my Jquery. This allowed for some of my titles to fade in at different points when the webpage first loads in. It allows the webpage to feel like it is alive and not just stagnant like the current Yellowstone page. Although, the current Yellowstone page had responsiveness with hovering over the navigation bar, I believed that was not very helpful to the overall website as the navigation bar was poorly designed to begin with. I gave a clear divider between sections so people wouldn’t feel overwhelmed by the content on the page. The current Yellowstone website is very overwhelming with text so it is hard to be focused on certain content. I also cut down a lot of content on the home page and kept it very minimal. It was just the right amount of content so people would want to explore the site even further from the links in the “More Info” section at the bottom of the page. My wildlife page has the same kind of style as my home page. I included a lot of “.fadeIn”’s when you scrolled to the certain part of the page so the content would fade in when you got to that section. This made the website feel even more alive and interactive with the user. I only used important content for describing each animal so it would peak people’s interest in wanting to come and see the animals for themselves at Yellowstone. Overall, I believe my website design improved upon many of the pitfalls of the current Yellowstone site. I gave it a much more modern feel which is what the masses the world want today. This project helped me to refine all of my skills that I’ve learned throughout this whole class, especially JavaScript and Jquery. It has helped me to peak my interest in the web design and coding world. The future looks bright for me with coding, and I can’t wait to see what it holds. For my extra points, I included a couple of “.fadeIn”’s for when you’d scroll past a certain point on the page. I also included the bouncing arrow at the top of the page, which encourages users to scroll down my page in order to learn more about Yellowstone. I also added a weather and calendar widget right into my website. Lastly, if you click on the “Visit Today!” button on the navigation bar, you’ll get a pop up telling you that you’ll about to go to a new page.