

# WMDD 4815 Final Project: Magazine Website

Based on assignments by [Kevin McMillan](#)

For this assignment, you will create an online magazine website. The magazine can be about any subject that interests you. The website should consist of at least four pages:

- **Home/Index page**

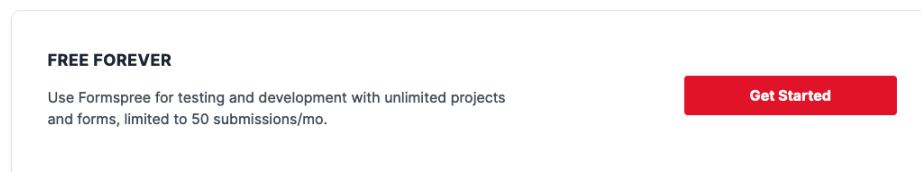
This page should have the title of the magazine, a navigation menu (with links to all pages on your site), a search bar (you should be able to type text into this and submit it, but it doesn't have to actually do anything) and "teaser" excerpts of several articles; these excerpts should link to your article page, and may contain the article title, a short description, an image, author name, a category name, etc.

- **Article page**

This page will contain the full content of an article; it should contain at least five paragraphs, two headings, two images, the author of the article, and the date of publication. The text can be either written completely by yourself, or taken from Wikipedia with attribution.

- **Contact page**

This page should contain a simple contact form that will allow readers to get in touch with you via your email address. Use the [formspree.io](https://formspree.io) service to get the template code for your form and then customize it to your liking. This service is free but requires that you sign up for an account; if you have concerns about the privacy of your data, please feel free to use a fake name and email address. Make sure to select the free option on the Plans page on formspree.



- **Sources page**

The purpose of the sources page is to provide attributions for all of the resources you have used, such as text, images, and any other resources you may be using. For the images, use a **table** that has the image in the left column, the name of the author in the center column, and a link to the source page in the right column. Make sure the table is **accessible** and **responsive**.

You are **not** required to create original content. Feel free to use text from Wikipedia or some other source that provides text under a Creative Commons license. (Do remove the inline citations if you use Wikipedia.) You may use any images that are either in the **public domain** (meaning anyone can use them for free without attribution) or licensed for use under **Creative Commons**. Of course, you are free to use your own images and writing if you choose.

Some sources of free images and video:

- <https://unsplash.com/>
- <https://morguefile.com/photos/morguefile/> (images and video)
- <https://videos.pexels.com/> (video)
- <https://www.pexels.com/>
- <https://pixabay.com/>
- <http://nos.twinsnd.co/>
- <http://jaymantri.com/>
- <http://pickupimage.com/>
- <https://picography.co/>
- <http://www.lifeofpix.com/>

Please note that if you use any content created by someone else, including text, images and videos, you must provide proper attribution; failure to do so will result in a mark of 0 on the project.

**You may not use any code libraries or frameworks; all of your HTML and CSS (and JavaScript if you choose to use it) must be completely written by you. If you want to use code from another source, you must discuss it with me first.**

Notes on sources and attribution:

- Google Images is not a valid source!
- Rather than simply providing a link to the stock image site, provide a link to the page for the specific image you used. For example, providing a link to “pexels.com” would not be sufficient.
- If an image does not have any copyright or license information, you must assume that it is **not** free to use.
- You must provide a reference even for your own images and writing, since I will not know they belong to you unless you tell me!

**Failure to follow these practices will result in a mark of 0 on the project and will be reported to the college as academic misconduct. Ask me if you have any doubts; I’d be happy to help!**

Please review the following checklist as you develop your site:

### **The site should be accessible:**

- Text colors should have adequate contrast and background images should not interfere with text.
  - Check contrast using the following tool:  
<https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/>
- Semantic markup should be used (meaning correct use of tags like <article>, <section>, <nav>, <footer>, <header>, <main>, <figure>, etc.) in addition to a hierarchical structure with correct use of <h1> through <h6>.
- Icon and image links should have accessible names and labels. Forms should have labels with accessible text.
- Images should have **alt** text unless it is deemed redundant for screenreaders.
- Your table should make use of **<th>** tags and the **scope** attribute.
- You can check some aspects of accessibility using this tool:  
<http://wave.webaim.org/>

### **The site should be responsive and mobile-friendly:**

- Mobile-first design methodology should be used (meaning progressive enhancement of the mobile layout with media queries, and the mobile view should be created without the use of media query.)
- The mobile layout should have a single column and easy-to-use navigation.
- The site should not have an excessive load time; resize and resave images to have small file sizes, and don't embed Google fonts you aren't using.

### **The site should be free from errors:**

- Test the site on the major browsers, such as Chrome and Firefox.
- HTML and CSS code should validate. (include screenshots)
- Test the site using different devices and screen sizes. Make sure there is no way to break the layout by changing the size of the browser window.
- Test the site again after deploying it to the web.

### **The site should be well-designed:**

- Use the design skills you've learned this term.
- Use a pleasing color harmony.
- Use well-designed typography; consider line length, line height, typographic hierarchy, and choice of font family.
- Make sure elements are properly aligned and related items are grouped together, with some kind of separation between unrelated items.
- Try to create something novel, and try to challenge yourself!

## **Hand In**

- The hand in deadline is posted on Brightspace in the Assessments > Assignments area.

- You will receive the instruction for how to host your website in Week 10. Upload your site following the instruction; it should be accessible on the web by visiting your domain name URL. Paste a link to this URL into the comments of your D2L submission.
- Remember to test the site again once it has been uploaded!
- I'll use your contact form to send you an email. Please respond to this!
- Delete all unnecessary files from the project folder. Make sure your project folder contains a subfolder called **validation** with screenshots of your validation results. Rename the project folder to **magazine-firstname-lastname**, create a zip archive, and submit it to D2L.

## Marking Rubric:

- **[4 marks]** four pages with content provided (including sources table and contact form)
- **[2 marks]** free from bugs and validates
- **[2 marks]** accessible
- **[3 marks]** graphic design principles used
- **[3 marks]** mobile-friendly design implemented
- **[1 mark]** Contact form works properly
- **[2 marks]** Uploaded and accessible via URL

**Total: 17**

Note that up to -3 may be deducted for improper hand in, disorganized files, poorly commented and formatted code, etc.

## Resources:

Some sites that collect examples of magazine design:

- <https://www.awwwards.com/websites/magazine-newspaper-blog/>
- <http://www.vandelaydesign.com/best-magazine-style-websites/>