

INFS3202/7202 Practical 1 – Web Page Design

Overview of all Practicals in this semester

Each practical counts 5% towards your assessment and is divided amongst a number of tasks. You can get partial marks for at least attempting the tasks, so even if you can't complete it, still show what you've done.

Where possible, each prac will build on the work you did in previous pracs. Pages can be built and demonstrated in any editor you want, except for WYSIWYG editors such as Dreamweaver. Some suggestions include Microsoft Expression Web 3.0, Notepad++ (which should already be installed on ITEE computers, or may be downloaded free at: <http://notepad-plus-plus.org/>), Aptana (available for download at: <http://www.aptana.com/>), or even Notepad (comes with windows, but is very simple).

Objectives

The goal of this practical is to explore basic HTML & CSS structure and usage. This practical counts 5% towards your assessment. You must present this practical to your lab tutor during your scheduled lab sessions in week 4 that starts 19/03/2012. The prac could be done either in lab (during week 3), or at home.

This practical exercise is divided into three tasks:

- development of the main HTML page of a web-gallery (2 marks);
- converting hyperlinks to a CSS menu (2 marks);
- validating your HTML & CSS code (1 mark).

Preparation

Before attempting this Practical you should have a good working knowledge of how to create a basic site using HTML & CSS. You should know how to use style sheets to change both the style and layout of a page and the advantages of using CSS over inline styling and table layouts.

Please Ensure:

- You have covered the material in Lectures 1 - 3.
- You have a good understanding of basic HTML mark-up and how to create pages using mark-up notation. Students should understand how to use the following markups: <HTML><HEAD><TITLE><META><BODY><P><A><DIV><TABLE><TR><TD>

A quick introduction could be found here:

- <http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/Guide/>
- <http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/Guide/Advanced>
- <http://www.w3schools.com/html/default.asp>

- You should know how to use a CSS file to apply a consistent set of styles to objects in an HTML page or a set of HTML pages, and how to change the layout of objects.

A quick introduction with examples is available here:

- <http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/Guide/Style>
- <http://www.communitymx.com/content/article.cfm?cid=3B56F&print=true>

- http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_positioning.asp
- You should also understand what HTML and CSS validation are, and why it is important to write "correct" HTML files:
 - <http://validator.w3.org/docs/why.html>

Task 1 (2 marks): Creating a static HTML page

For this task there is no need for students to place their files on a webserver – they can be stored within their H drives (i.e. H:\INFS3202\websites)

1. Select six (or more) images you would like to use. The images could be any images downloaded from the public domain of the Internet or your own. Placeholders (dummy images) are also acceptable.
2. Create a new HTML document prac01_1.html. This can be created in any text editor or IDE.
3. Your HTML page must have the following elements:
 - a title and heading (H1).
 - an unordered list of hyperlinks to three other pages (could be any) at the beginning of the page. Give them a text, i.e. "Page1", "Page2", "Page3".
 - a table with images. The images could be any images downloaded from the public domain of the Internet or your own ones. Placeholders (dummy images) are also acceptable.
 - a table with 3 columns and 2 rows. You may create a bigger table, i.e. 4 x 3, if you have enough images.
4. Each cell of the table must have two elements: an image and image title. Find your own way how to make it nice looking.
5. When a user clicks on an image, a separate page (or a pop-up window) with the full-sized image should be opened.

Task 2 (2 marks): using CSS for creating a menu

Cascaded Style Sheets (CSS) offer a powerful tool for creating menus. In this task the list of hyperlinks created in the previous task will be converted to a menu.

1. Create a Cascading Style Sheet in an external file that affects the list of links at the top of the page. Place the file at the same folder where your HTML page is located.
2. Give an id to the unordered list with links.
3. The CSS should:
 - remove the bullets and indentation from the list;
 - make the list elements block objects by adding extra padding (i.e 6px), so that clicking near the text activates the link;
 - make each list element to be located in a line, so that the links appear side by side, rather than below each other;
 - make the text appears in uppercase and remove underlining;
 - make the links change colour when rolled over.

The links should not interfere with the heading above, or with the content below.

You can use the links below to get additional help with CSS programming:

http://www.webreference.com/programming/css_style2/index.html

http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_navbar.asp

The following link could be used to find out the numeric representation of a colour and is very useful for CSS programming:

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_colorpicker.asp

Task 3 (1 mark): validation of your code

Validate both your web page and style sheet using the w3c validators. All of your code should pass without errors.

The validators are found at:

HTML: <http://validator.w3.org/>

CSS: <http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/>

If the code has errors, you need to fix it and validate again. Warnings are acceptable, however you should understand their meanings.