Innovation Report – LIB2024 – Internet Applications
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Write a 2-3 paragraph report stating the Use of HTML, CSS, JS, Github and other technologies learned in this class for innovation in Library and Information Services.

The use of HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and Github are all important in the field of Library and Information Services as libraries rely on Internet tools and resources to serve and communicate with patrons. Having knowledge in web development allows library staff to quickly resolve technical problems themselves, instead of having to rely on a technical department. Plus, smaller libraries may not even have a separate technical department, so staff may need to maintain their websites/online catalogues. If staff can "inspect" a webpage and go into the back-end to spot any errors, they can operate independently and find solutions any problems; this way, patrons are not hindered from the library's resources and continue to benefit from them.

In the case of smaller libraries, if staff are aware of how to use basic website technologies, they could develop a blog or other interactive tools that specifically cater towards their patrons. Instead of just having a list of "top reads" on a library website, why not incorporate JavaScript to have animated elements showcasing these items, or use CSS to colour-code different genres of books in a blog post? These kinds of developments would be visually appealing to users, and in turn benefit the community, possibly increasing overall library usership – something libraries are continually trying to achieve. Libraries are no longer places just for reading, and staff need to be confident connecting and communicating with their patrons via web technologies. If staff are confident enough, they could potentially even run workshops or classes at the library.

Libraries are often feared to be redundant, so these institutions need to stay up-to-date with technology to effectively market their services and resources. Libraries are all about sharing and providing access to information, and although coding can be intimidating, staff who are well-rounded in their web-development skillset will surely be an advantage in their institution. Front-line staff have first-hand knowledge of patrons' wants and needs and by being able to combine graphics, text, audio and video to create or maintain their websites, and communicate information in a new and appealing way, they can create dynamic, interesting content that is both user-friendly and attractive.