Final Write Up: Weekly Site Updates

Each week, I updated my personal site with concepts learned from the text, as well as updated the JavaJam Coffee House website, as per the case study assignment at the end of each chapter. I have organized this document to show updates to specifically my CSS files for my personal site. More information can be found at the head of each of my HTML or CSS files in the commented section. There is a "journal" of entries at the top of each one.

The first CSS document was the initial CSS document we created for our personal site. These entries stopped after October, since I transitioned to only using one CSS document for my entire website (maybe I was just confused about the fine details of an assignment?).

> *9-10: I added a background image, it was tough to find one with decent quality and matching the site theme colors to the image! I also completely changed color scheme for the site, it was looking a little random in its color selection. Lastly, I added box shadow for a little depth of field and some padding and border line decorations to space everything out nicely.*

> *9/22: I changed the footer and heading colors for better contrast, they weren't very friendly for someone who has trouble seeing low-contrast content. Also added div and link changes for better consistency on my assignments page, they were a little disorganized before.*

> *9/30: Today I added CSS button navigation! So much better looking!*

> *10/6: I added @media constraints for different screen sizes. Now the website will format content according to the size of the window or screen of the user's viewing device. How fun!*

> *10/12: I added tables to the home page and the assignments page, to better display my work and make everything readable.*

> *10/18: Included input, label, form elements to control the look and feel of the contact page.*

The second CSS document is one that I created second and kept for the rest of the semester, continuing through until the end. It has much more going on, and is the document that controls everything in the most current revision of my personal site.

> *9/10: I created this second CSS document. The code is based on the JavaJam CSS file I was using last. I modified some of the color preferences, padding, and a few other things to make it my own.*

> *9/15: I added a background image and matched all the document colors. I also added a box shadow property. Love the box-shadow. I'll probably overuse it. It does a good job at visually breaking up a page, and giving it good depth.*

> *9/30: Today I included properties to make photos appear in a gallery. I also set h1 text to center to make things look a little cleaner.*

> *10/6: Today I added @media constraints (they're quite broken at the moment), button nav, and booted the old CSS sheet from the rest of the site (now there is only 1). The site is more mobile-friendly, and can be viewed easily on a variety of different screen sizes!*

10/14: Today I added table stuff for making my assignments and main page prettier! They were a little scattered and the links were all buried and ugly.

10/18: Today I added input, label, form elements since I added the contact form to my personal site.

10/28: Today I added table border to spruce up the tables I added a couple weeks ago. This styling was originally located in HTML file, so I moved it into the CSS for best practice.

11/4: Included an audio element, though I don't think I'll be adding an audio player to my site. I personally find them a little tacky…

11/10: Added item class, and I changed photo album format to match example in the text. Mine was chunky and clunky; time to change it!

11/13: Today I added float right class for images in shopping cart, removed Polaroid CSS feature from album; it was lingering after the changes I made last week. I wanted a cleaner-looking static gallery.

11/19: I updated table colors because they were soft-of-hideous. Changed alignment and look of the cart items so that they don't take up quite so much white space. They were rather hulking.

I would like to point out that though it isn't CSS, the final week JavaScript and jQuery week of the coursework I added JavaScript to the footer of all of my pages to display the last modified date and time stamp! So it looks like there is a gap in my work at the end of the semester, but that's where the work was done; in the HTML documents instead of the CSS documents.

After an entire semester of practicing my HTML, CSS, and learning a little JavaScript and jQuery along the way, I'd say I'm dangerous! I was also re-inspired to continue maintaining my own personal site, although it is a bit constrained (because it's a WordPress site). But it has been fun building everything completely from scratch, and especially learning about how all of these tools are interconnected. That was the scariest part for me; how to put everything together effectively so that it does what you want it to do! Thank you for a great semester and have a wonderful New Year!