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CSCB20 - Assignment 2
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CSCB20 - Assignment #2 Report

Some of the things that we noticed as we were analyzing the old CSCB20 Course Website include the scattering of information, the unresponsiveness and the unaesthetic look of the website. The old website had 9 different page links available on the navbar that filled space and made that type of navbar look nice but most of the pages didn't have much information on them. Pages like the calendar and the news could have combined together and the website would have been much more easily navigable. To fix this problem we added the navbar to the top of the page instead and we limited the number of items on the navbar. When we wanted to make more pages easily accessible we just made a drop down menu so we could keep our navbar looking nice and clean. Also as we mentioned above we combined some of the pages that we felt would fit in nicely, the announcements and calendar can now be seen together in one place, also all the online resources can be seen in one place which makes it easier for the user to get around. Something else that we improved on with our new website is how the old website did not change element layout when screen size was changed. While this was fine on most mobile screens as the widths and heights of the content on most pages was small. If the website was loaded on a pc/laptop monitor it can clearly be seen, through the header and navbar borders, that the website was not made to be responsive to screen size. We changed this as much as possible using flexbox, and also by making our home page work on mobile devices. In the future when our capabilities increase it would be great to have the whole website be able to load properly on mobile devices which will add more ways students can enjoy the website. One final big flaw that we really wanted to work on in our new website was how the old website was pretty unaesthetic.

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We felt that any website, even if it was a academic website should have a little flair to it. The block formatting and the boring tables used in the old website were too simple and plain to keep the user engaged. There just wasn't much to the old website that made us want to visit over and over again which can be important for students as deadlines and tests are announced usually through the course website. To keep the attention of the user we used different couples that compliment each other on the pages of the website so the user has a fun time as they go through each page. We also added little quotes and pictures on the top of each page that would be interesting for the user. Ideally in the future these pictures and quotes could be changed or cycled around the pages on a regular basis so that the user can have another thing to look forward to when they visit the page. Trying to improve the website was a big challenge for our group as one of us had never made a website before and as such at times ideas for design were scarce. Design was a challenge because it was easy to imagine what we wanted in terms of content but it was hard to figure out how that would look on the actual website. Doing the mockups and user stories really helped us with this. Another challenge we faced doing this assignment was how to place items exactly where we wanted on the page. We realized web development may be easily visualized in our minds but getting objects to appear exactly where we wanted can require some playing around with padding and margins to adjust exact positions of items. This challenge was overcome by just a bunch of saving the file, and testing out how it looked in the browser. This back and forth did grow our experience and allowed us to get better and estimating what the values would be for formatting the content on the page.