

CSCB20 Assignment 2 Report

To create a website for CSCB20 many ideas were taken into account from professor Anna's website (<https://www.utoronto.ca/~bretscher/b20/>) since the requirement for this assignment was to reflect all content and data from the previous website onto ours. However, when using professor Anna's website as a base to create our website, we found some issues that made it inconvenient for users to use. First, if students had concerns regarding the course such as teaching style, content of the course and so on there was no medium that the students could use to deliver this message to the professor. Therefore creating a discussion page where it contained an anonymous feedback section made it easy for students to convey their personal thoughts. Second, creating an announcement page and making it accessible through the navigation bar made it easy for students to access all new updates. Also, we kept our order of news in newest to oldest order which makes it more convenient for students to read and find needed updates. Thirdly, Anna's website has her navigation bars on the left side with no dividers between the labels and having it like this can make it messy and hard for users to distinguish tabs. Taking this into account we put borders around our labels to divide our labels better. Fourthly, another comment regarding navigation bars, in Anna's website when one scrolls down the page, the bars don't follow along. Having it like this makes the user have to scroll up to navigate to another page. To make it more convenient for users to use we made our navigation bars follow as we scroll down. Furthermore, for users to be able to easily distinguish which page they are in, we kept the colour of the current navigation bar darker compared to the other bars. Lastly, this one does not relate back to Anna's website however one of the minimum requirement for this assignment was to have a course team page. At first, we created a separate navigation bar called "course team" to contain information about the professor and TAs. Nevertheless, we realized that it made our navigation bar section crowded due to having too many pages, so we decided to combine TAs information with our Lab page and professor's information with our Home page which also included basic course description and grading scheme. Doing so we believe that it organized the contents better.

These were some of the issues we found with the previous website and solutions to how we can make it better for student users to use.

While doing this assignment the main challenge we faced was how we should organize our website so that all the minimal content in Anna's website and additional content we wished to include is nicely organized so that it is easy for users to use. To do this we wrote down all content we needed and saw which contents we could group into one navigation bar. For example, we saw that piazza and feedback was a good fit for a page called discussion so we grouped it like that. Furthermore, creating user stories and mock pages of our website before coding our HTML and CSS helped us have an image of how we wanted our website to look. Overall this assignment helped us realize the importance of sketching out our ideas before we put it into action.