TEAM ROLES AND PROJECTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WEB TEAMS

INFORMATION ARCHITECT

Responsibilities

- Prepares all the content and how it's arranged within each page and across pages in terms of:
  - Ontology
  - Taxonomy
  - Choreography

- Defines the navigation and how it's presented

- Defines the *feeling* or *mood* of the content in support of the intended mission of the website

Focus

- The structure layer (content) is coded in semantically correct HTML and arranged in a way that makes sense for the content

- Content structure (HTML) meets web standards and industry best practices

VISUAL DESIGNER

Responsibilities

- Responsible for everything the user sees, in any browser type and size

- Creates the graphic design in terms of:
  - Colors
  - Styles
  - Fonts
  - Layouts
  - …for any browser type and size

  …in support of the chosen *feeling* or *mood* (as defined by the Information Architect)

Focus

- No usability or readability problems

- The presentation layer (styles) is coded in CSS so it is visually arranged a way that makes sense for the content and adds value to the structure layer

- Styles (CSS) meet web standards and industry best practices
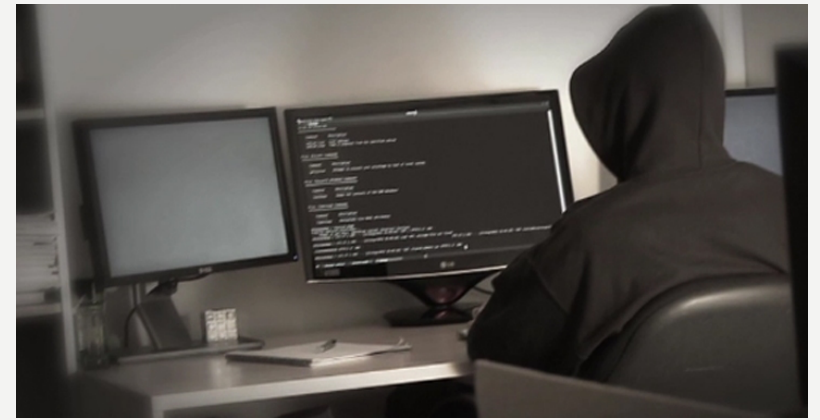
FRONT-END CODER

Responsibilities

- Responsible for everything the user interacts with, from page load to every click and scroll
- Checks to make sure everything in the front-end (not just JavaScript but also HTML and CSS) must work and work well (optimized)
- Images must be correctly prepped (optimized)
- Decides the particulars of plug-in usage and installation, web font installation, and general optimization and usage of all front-end technologies

Focus

- No interoperability problems; checks the website in all popular (including old) web browsers to make sure everything works and displays correctly
- The behavior layer (interactions) is coded in JavaScript primarily (may include certain CSS3 interactions) so it adds value to the structure and presentation layers
- "Page weight" is not excessive, and load time and on-page operations work as expected; includes optimization of images, web fonts, and JavaScript plugins
- JavaScript implementation meets industry standards and best practices
- HTML and CSS pass W3C validation within reason

BACKEND CODER

Responsibilities

- Responsible for all server interactions using PHP and MySQL including the addition of all code in the HTML documents to handle the server-side interactions (server-side *includes* too)

- Responsible for the set up and manipulation of database(s)

- Leads team collaboration (Github) and manages the file structure

Focus

- No server-side problems

- Database tables are setup correctly and normalized and scripts that open, close, read and write data work as expected

- No scripting errors; no **error.log** files

- The team is coordinated and effective; no complaints

TEAM PROJECTS

- For each team project there must be teams of **three** students
  - If not enough students to create a full team, students may double-up roles (but only if no one else is available)
- Each team project will be documented - who worked on what
- Some projects will receive a single grade, shared among team members - some project, each team member will be graded separately
- Peer evaluations will result in re-balancing of points (zero-sum)