TC 349 **Client Side Web Design**

Course Description

Client Side Web Design aims to be a comprehensive course on designing modern, professional websites. The course takes a holistic approach to web design touching on everything from design theory and grids to HTML5 and JavaScript. Students will also be exposed to professional tools like Git and learn how to operate within a larger development group.

Instructor

Jeff Siarto (siartoje@msu.edu)
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Office: Virtual (Skype ID: jsiarto), State News Building, East Lansing
Hours: By appointment

Course Requirements

• CAS 204
• CAS 205
• Open to students in the Department of Telecommunication, Information Studies and Media or in the Design Specialization or in the Information Technology Specialization.

Required Materials

• Book: No dead trees here—this class is online
• A GitHub account
    • http://github.com
• You will also need to get Git setup on your computer (Mac, Windows, Linux)
    • Mac: https://help.github.com/articles/set-up-git
    • Windows: https://help.github.com/articles/set-up-git#platform-windows
    • Linux: https://help.github.com/articles/set-up-git#platform-linux
• A notebook/journal for daily sketching

What To Expect

• Computer time: **90%**
• Writing/sketching: **10%**
• Programming experience: **Minimal** (some scripting will be covered)
• Web design experience: **Understanding of HTML and CSS, web publishing**

- Computer proficiency: **High**

Covered Topics

- HTML5 and markup best-practices
- CSS2/3
- JavaScript (JQuery, d3)
- Content creation and organization
- Information architecture
- Layouts and grid systems
- Responsive design
- Color theory
- Usability
- Design frameworks
- Content management systems
- Deployment and hosting

Assignments

Screencasts: Most of the weekly lessons will be delivered in Screencast format—consider this your "lecture" and take notes where appropriate. I'll also provide a rough outline of the material, any additional reading you need to complete and a list of key points and concepts from the lesson.

Labs: Each week there will be one primary lab project and some secondary work toward the final project. You may also be using 3rd party tools like Dash to complete lab assignments. This work will be hands-on, markup-slinging web design and will amount to 60% of your final grade.

Sketchbook: Each week there will be one sketchbook assignment where you'll get a chance to get creative and focus on the "analog" part of building great websites. We'll explore Sketchnotes, basic drawing, site sketches and wireframes and even a little bit of logo design.

Final Project: 40% of your final grade will be a final project/site. This will be the design and implementation of a full website from start to finish.

Late Work

Late assignment lose 20% each day they are not turned in. If you have a special circumstance or are struggling with the class, please let me know as early as possible so that I can help you.

Grading

- 50% Weekly Lab Assignments
- 10% Sketchbook Assignments
- 40% Final Project

Final grade distributions are based on class performance, in past classes a 4.0 typically has required an overall score of 92-94%.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1: (5/12) - Class setup and HTML5, CSS and JS primer
Week 2: (5/19) - Principles of design (Grids, Whitespace, Typography)
Week 3: (5/26) - Advanced HTML5 and CSS
Week 4: (6/2) - Content and Information Architecture
Week 5: (6/9) - Layouts
Week 6: (6/16) - JavaScript
Week 7: (6/23) - Final projects (short week)