

Personal Website

HTML, CSS, and Design

Overview

This first assignment will have students creating their own personal website that displays their experience, projects, education and provides ways for people to contact you and see what you're doing. The goal of this project is to create a page you can regularly update and share with colleagues, recruiters, and put on your resume. You should keep this in mind as you add style and content to the page!

If you already have a personal website, you are welcome to create a new one to match the requirements of this website or reach out to the course staff on alternative ideas for a static web app. There is an emphasis on creativity and individuality in this assignment, so if you have an idea that might not entirely conform to the expectations below, please contact the course staff for approval (you can also always change the site after your assignment is graded.)

Restriction

Please note that for this assignment I am forbidding the use of any JavaScript (with one exception mentioned below), Ruby or other programming language, including the use of imported JS libraries. You may use style libraries mentioned in class mentioned in class or approved by the TAs/lecturers first. Do NOT use anything like React, Angular, Vue to help you on this assignment as the goal is to get comfortable with the basics, and you will lose points accordingly.

Note

I am suggesting you use Github Pages for this assignment (instructions can be found in the lectures), but you may use other servers (Heroku, AWS, your own server, etc.) if you are comfortable with them. In this case, it will likely be necessary to set up something like a Node server, but no logic will be permitted on the page itself.

Rubric

- Working Github, high code quality and actively working URL - 10%
- 4 unique pages - 20%
- Navbar - 20%
- Mobile friendly design - 10%
- Use of the certain HTML Components - 15%
- Use of certain CSS properties and features - 15%

- Good and professional design - 10%

Working Github and actively working URL

The basic piece of this assignment is to make sure that all of your code is pushed, and that the website works for users. If there are any additional login or verification steps, please make sure that that is provided in the instructions. All written code must be well written, clear and follow patterns set out in this or other courses. One important practice is that you must organize your code into correct folders and files: each page should have all appropriate files in the correct folder (except for the home page); the core HTML should be in an index.html (i.e., I shouldn't be able to see a .html in your URL paths ever); common CSS should be stored in a common folder, and specific CSS in each correct folder. There must be no JavaScript used on the site.

4 unique pages

Your personal should have at least 4 pages.

1. There should be a page about you, including references to any experience or education you want to include. This should also be your home or landing page.
2. There should be a page that links to or describe any projects you've done (either personal, academic or professional.) Links to specific code repos should be present if possible.
3. One page should reference any forms of contact or online presence you wish to prompt. This should include (if available):
 - a. Your email address
 - b. Your public Github repo
 - c. Your LinkedIn account
 - d. Instagram/Twitter/Facebook links (if they contain content you are okay with professionals seeing).
4. A final page can be anything else that you reflects you:
 - a. A personal or professional blog (should have at least one entry)
 - b. Personal or professional images you wish to share
 - c. A place to show off your hobbies and interests

We are not too worried about the content of your website, so aspects like typos or bad grammar will not be evaluated too strongly.

Navbar

A core feature of your site should be a navbar, so that users can easily access all information:

- It should stay in the same position, no matter where the user has scrolled
- It should contain links to each of the pages above. Additionally, when a user is on that page, you should use styling to indicate that that is where the user is currently looking.
- It should have a title that references your name

- It should not cover any content, unless the user has scrolled down the page
- Hint: consider using CSS aspects like transitions and pseudo-elements (e.g., :hover) to artfully dynamically modify the size of your navbar

Mobile friendly design

Your website should look equally as good when on a mobile phone or desktop computer. Some considerations:

- You may need to modify your navbar so that it shows as much space as possible.
- All content should be equally accessible whether a user is on desktop or mobile
- Text, images and other content should shrink and grow so that it is easier to see
- Idea: it might be a good idea to move the navbar (say from the side to the bottom of the screen) when the user is in mobile or browser view.

Use of the certain HTML Components

Your website should use, at least once, each of the following HTML elements:

- div
- span
- a
- img
- p
- head
- body
- grid
- h1, h2, h3, h4, h5 or h6
- ul or ol or table

Additionally, make sure that your id's and classes are well named, as any poorly or carelessly named content might result in a lower score.

Use of certain CSS properties and features

Your website should use, at least once, each of the following CSS properties or features:

- font-family
- background-color or background
- margin
- padding
- position
- align-items or text-align
- flex (i.e., display: flex) - you must demonstrate your understanding flexbox at least once
- @media queries
- You must use at least two different pseudo-elements (e.g., :hover, :first-child, etc.)

Good and professional design

Finally, it is important that you have a web design that is both easy for users to navigate but also interesting to keep people engaged. Some considerations:

- Think about how your colors and fonts relate to each other. It is good if these do not clash, but rather make it easy for users to use your site.
- Consider importing a font for an easy way to make your website stand out. What font do you find more readable on a computer screen?
- How are you branding your page? Consider including pieces like SVG icons to make your site look more professional
- Imagine how a user would navigate your page
- Experiment with spacing and grid so that your site is well organized
- You can even consider working out of the box a bit: adding icons that update when users interact; modify the scroll bar so it fits with your theme

Please know that I understand that this is NOT a design course, but the intention is that you can create something to document your professional experience and share with recruiters, colleagues or others.

Deliverables

Upon successful completion, you should submit include the following with your code:

- A link to your website
- A link to your Github repo (if this is private, make sure that TA's are added as collaborators)
- A writeup responding to the following questions and ideas(at least 3 sentences per bullet point):
 - What was the most challenging piece of this assignment? Did you find it easy or challenging to work with HTML and CSS? How long did this overall assignment take you?
 - What decisions did you make when you made your site mobile friendly?
 - What did you take into account when you developed the *design* of your website? Is there anything that you're particularly proud of?
 - Given more time or resources, what additional features would you add to your site in the future?
- If you used code or design from somewhere online, please mention it here