

## Website Assignment

### Basic Information

#### DUE DATES:

- DRAFT Website: **Day 3, Week 13** (*Link from Super Wiki*)
- Peer Review of One Website: **Day 7, Week 13** (*Link from Super Wiki*)
- FINAL Website: **Day 7 of Week 14** (*Replace link from Super Wiki*)
- Reflection Paper: **Day 7 of Week 14** (*Submit via Assignment in Week 4*)

**PERCENTAGE OF GRADE:** 30%

#### OBJECTIVES:

1. Create an effective personal website<sup>1</sup> (portfolio or other).
2. Showcase professional accomplishments and/or personal interests.
3. Demonstrate ability to utilize web-based skills covered in class.

#### DELIVERABLES:

Personal website (portfolio or other), uploaded to your Simmons webpace

- At least 4-6 HTML pages (this is a minimum range; feel free to do more)
- Include required pages/links
  - A page with bio of you
  - A "Contact Me" page detailing ways for the viewer to contact you
  - Link to the Technology Tutorial developed for the LIS 488 class
- All pages should be responsive/mobile friendly
- At least one JavaScript manipulation
- At least one instance of image editing/manipulation using GIMP or a similar tool

### Description

In this assignment, you will develop a comprehensive personal portfolio in the form of an online, professional website. You are encouraged to make this a website that showcases your professional developments and skill (in other words, a website that a future employer could look at and get a positive impression). You can make a site for a hobby, cause or organization with permission.

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<sup>1</sup> Instead of a personal and professional portfolio, if there's a specific hobby, cause or library or organization that you want to build a website for, you can do that if pre-approved by instructor.

The website needs to be appealing and professional, well laid-out, easy to navigate, and must be uploaded online for easy online access using a URL. The web page has to showcase your personal professional portfolio in a manner that is easy and rewarding to the reader/viewer.

## Steps

### DESIGN SITE:

1. Start out by deciding what pages you will have and what their content will be.
2. Then create a mock-up of what your pages' layouts should look like. You can just use paper and pencil. Simple and professional (yet creative) layouts with consistent fonts, color schemes, are best. Minimize the use of different fonts and animations. Try a few different things and decide what you like best.
3. It is helpful to begin by designing the first page – the home page (saved as index.html). You can then build a set of linkages to provide the remaining information.
4. Before you construct your pages, map out the navigational structure of your web. Then proceed to fill the pages with the needed information and images. If you aren't sure what other pages to put in, we have some suggestions:
  - a. Your current CV/resume (a PDF upload works best for this; having your home address or phone number online is not a good idea, so please exclude those information)
  - b. Goals for the next 2-5 years
  - c. Your thoughts and approach to life
  - d. Your past experience/what draws you into the world of Library and Information Science
  - e. Detailed pages expanding the major sections of your CV
  - f. A page with a photo album
  - g. Pages on your hobbies in general or on specific hobbies
  - h. Places you've travelled to, and/or travel experiences
  - i. Links to your blog, or other web presence you have (e.g., YouTube videos you've uploaded)

### BUILD YOUR PAGES:

5. Build the HTML and CSS for your main page.
6. Once you are happy with the design, you can copy the HTML into the other pages of your site and use it as a template (NOTE: Do not put spaces in the file names of your website; use all lowercase for your filenames; keep filenames short).
7. Add the rest of your content to each page. It is recommended that you have a navigational menu on every page that contains links back to the index and other major pages. This keeps your website organized and easy to navigate.

**UPLOAD YOUR SITE:**

8. Upload your website to your space on web.simmons.edu periodically throughout the development process so that you can see what it looks like on other computers/browsers. Your URL should look like **web.simmons.edu/~username/488site/**. (NOTE: You can use a hosting service or your own URL this is okay, but get pre-approval from the instructor.)
9. You will need to upload your final web pages, images and other files to a the web server using FTP software, such as FileZilla. Please refer to Lab 5 for instructions.
10. Test your final site and make sure all the pages are working properly. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that you have at least two friends, family or classmates test your website before you upload your draft and your final. See the Krug book "Don't Make Me Think!" for how to do usability testing on the cheap.

**DRAFT WEBSITE:**

1. Link to your **DRAFT website** from the Super Wiki **by Day 3 of Week 13**.

**WEBSITE PEER REVIEW:**

11. Review one of your fellow students' websites and post a document with your feedback. You can use the Peer Review template that is on the Super Wiki. Use the guidelines for writing Peer Review feedback found on page 6 in the Syllabus.
12. You must link to your peer review in the Super Wiki using your name as the link after the tutorial you reviewed **by Day 7 of Week 13**.

**FINAL WEBSITE:**

13. Update your website based on the peer review from your fellow student and from me.
14. Double check the instructions and the rubric below to be sure you cover everything.
15. Link to your **FINAL website** from the Super Wiki **by Day 7 of Week 14**.

**REFLECTION PAPER:**

16. Document your reflections on the experience. It is useful to reflect on how we learn. It can help us learn more effectively in the future. In your two page paper be sure to reflect on the following issues:
  - a. **Planning:** How did the planning activities help you? (or not)
  - b. **Building:** What was your system for building your website? If you followed the suggestions made in the instructions, how well did they work? If you approached your development in a different way, describe it and how well it worked.
  - c. **Special Features:** What special feature did you endeavor to include that you had not tried before? How successful were you in getting it to work properly?
  - d. **Testing:** What kind of testing did you do? What were the results? Did you find the testing valuable or not, and why?

- e. **Challenges & Successes:** What were your greatest challenges and greatest successes in developing your Web Portfolio? What did you learn (about web development? about yourself?)? If you had this exercise to do over, would you approach it differently?
17. Submit your reflection paper in the "Website" Assignment Module **by Day 7, Week 14**. Use the template to guide your writing.

### HELPFUL HINTS:

- Do not procrastinate. This will take longer than you think.
- Review my Website Help and Web Design presentations on the Super Wiki.
- Have friends or family review your website as you draft it.
- Pay attention to the peer review feedback. I will grade you on the degree to which you responded to the feedback in your FINAL website. If you didn't choose to make recommended changes, please say why in your Reflection Paper.

## Grading Rubric

Your assignment will be evaluated for:

### DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT:

- Level of appeal (neat, professional, creative)
- Color use (harmony of a few colors used consistently)
- Layout and arrangement (neat, organized)
- Readability (font and color)
- Ease of use and navigation
- Level of comprehensiveness (cover all aspects of yourself which you would like to showcase)

### COMPONENTS:

- Presence of a page with bio about you
- Presence of a contact me page
- Use of or link to the Technology Tutorial developed for LIS 488 class

### TECHNOLOGY SKILLS:

- Evidence of upload of page to a Simmons web space (or another hosting service)
- Evidence of creating at least 4-6 HTML pages
- Responsive CSS
- Evidence of image manipulation
- Evidence of JavaScript manipulation