

Overview

You will create a basic web page that will serve as a place to store and display your class work. This home page will be used over the course of this semester, and in subsequent semesters as well.

Structure

You may choose your own way to create your site. Whether you choose to write the HTML code yourself or make use of a GUI is wholly up to you. Regardless of method, you must design a page that includes the following elements:

- An identifying banner that lets the user know where they are.
- Links to additional pages and documents.
- Good aesthetic design (colors, layout, etc.).

Style

Your homepage is meant to be of professional quality. This means:

- Academic-style writing with absolutely no spelling or grammatical errors.
- A serious and professional tone in the writing and layout.
- No “fluff” like blinking text, favorite songs embedded on the page, viral videos, etc.
- A page that meets the basic standards of accessibility and usability.

Usability

The First Rule of usability: Don't make me think.

User-centered design

- Clear navigation aids – tell me where I am: Visual hints, breadcrumb trail, (or both), etc.
- Direct access – use fewest number of clicks to info (broad and shallow structure) but watch out for too many links.
- Narrow and deep structure – have fewer main choices: More clicks but perhaps easier to find.
- Consistency – make everything uniform: Navigation, design, fonts, etc.

User can complete task easily

- Easy to learn navigation
- Efficient navigation
- Memorable navigation style, no need to relearn
- Low error rate for user
- Satisfying experience for user

Accessibility

Make your content available the largest number of users.

General Accessibility

- Design for low-bandwidth
- Avoid using plug-in applications
- Tailor writing style to a general audience

Users with Disabilities

- All images should have an alternate text tag
- Written transcripts should be provided for audio and video

Web Site Location

Your web site is where you will post assignments throughout the communication courses and your senior project. For this course, your web site must reside on the CADE machine with a URL of the following style:

`http://www.eng.utah.edu/~username`

where "username" is your username on the CADE computers. This URL refers to a directory called

`public_html`

that resides in your home directory.

Password Protection

Eventually, you may choose to share your web site with the entire world or just certain people such as employers. For now, however, you must password protect your site using a .htaccess file. You must also e-mail your web site's htaccess user name, (which may be different from your username on the CADE system), and your web site's htaccess password to the ECE and CLEAR instructors. Make sure your site is accessible by the user name and password you send. Test it with a browser from a remote location. Note: use chmod in UNIX to set file permissions to allow "other" to read your files—but don't allow them to write them!

Content

Your homepage must have links to, and content for, the following:

- Resume
- Cover letter

As the semester proceeds, your homepage will also have links to, and content for, the following:

- PowerPoint slides for ECE current topic presentation
- Html version of technical poster

Grading Criteria

- 1) Structure
- 2) Content
- 3) Usability
- 4) Accessibility
- 5) Web Site Location
- 6) Password Protection