

Web Development From the Ground Up, a Series for Novice Computer Users

Lecture 3

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Lecture Website:

<http://famousphil.com/09web>

Got a quick question?

I'm outside NSC225 WF from 3:10-3:50pm

(Check my calendar/email me to verify, I occasionally cancel)

Recap

- In the Last Lecture, We covered the following
 - how to edit files in VIM / Pico
 - Enabling your UB webspace (5 min)
 - DNS and Domain Registration
 - Cover types of hosting
 - Began HTML / Photoshop
- This lecture will:
 - Points missed that deserve a mention
 - Cover Photoshop CS4 and creating HTML from PS
 - Cover more advanced CSS/HTML Tricks of the trade
 - Will mostly be actual site design / development, 40 minutes will be dedicated to this
- Lecture 4/5:
 - PHP /MySQL development introduction
 - Security aspects
 - will focus on installing and integrating Wordpress into an existing website
 - API Integration
- Lecture 6 will go into developing the gallery at <http://hsm3.famousphil.com>
 - PHP Data Structures
 - Other PHP knowledge (ternary operator, helpful design strategies)
 - MySQL queries
 - Recommended prereqs that will help you understand this lecture: CSE116, 250 (coding and data structure experience)

Browser Stats

- Popular Browsers
 - http://www.w3schools.com/browsers/browsers_stats.asp
 - You should develop for the most popular browsers, validate the others later
- Acid Tests
 - How well does a browser follow the standards?
 - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acid3> - for results
 - Run the test yourself: <http://acid3.acidtests.org/>
 - Notice how poorly Internet Explorer performs. Once again, 8 is getting better, it just isn't there yet.

Way Back Machine (FrontPage 2003)

- Show an original matthouse.us –
 - <http://www.archive.org/web/web.php>
 - Shows a website as it was in the past
 - <http://web.archive.org/web/20060202215528/http://matthouse.us/> (using FrontPage 2003 – early 2006)
 - <http://web.archive.org/web/20061205050000/http://matthouse.us/> (using FP2003 – late 2006)
 - Notice the awful source code of FrontPage 2003!!!

Photoshop???

Why?

- You don't necessarily need Photoshop but it makes your life so much easier for design!
- Most websites today look really nice and have a lot of graphics integrated

For those of us who can't envision

- Use a template!
 - www.templatemonster.com
 - You will pay roughly \$30-\$60 for each template
 - Basic design of a website that you can modify using Photoshop or a similar program and export
 - Famousphil.com
 - Started as a template from TM
 - Through a lot of creativity, suggestions and comments, the design changed so much that it is now unique.

Getting into Photoshop

- Goals
 - Modify the IEEE template for our lecture series website
 - I have a version completed, I will cover the following
 - Changing the font
 - Adding the ACM logo
 - Re-slicing the image for exporting to HTML images
 - » Slice sizes
 - Completely migrate all the current site information to the new template

Exporting the Photoshop file

- The web standard is gif
 - Poor compression (file size is big for good quality)
- Use PNG 24 whenever possible
- JPG may be an option for large logos
 - Great compression for file size
 - Doesn't play nice with browser positioning
- Keep the total size of the page UNDER 100KB.
 - I've quit developing for dialup users but I constantly keep this in mind so that the page doesn't load slow for users on broadband
- Export as HTML if you need to, you can export the images only if you understand positioning

Bringing the Images into HTML/CSS

- I recommend making a new directory and starting from scratch
 - I normally use a template for all of my sites that have the css paths set up. These files will be provided on the website.

Demo Time

- I haven't pre-made the site HTML! (well, I have, but I won't use it hopefully!)
 - **Expect the unexpected**
 - web developers always prepare for this!
 - I know that I will hit unexpected problems
 - The final website will be uploaded
 - All source files will also be posted
 - The PHP code (headers/footers) will be discussed formally on the slides for the next lecture
 - Validation tools at: <http://validator.w3.org>