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ISR formal proposal

Abstract

For my Independent Science Research project this year, I am planning on building an interactive website using HTML and CSS, plus some languages like Javascript.

Introduction and Goals

My project seems pretty do-able to me in the amount of time that I have. My goal is to build a website using HTML and CSS for it's foundation. I always wanted to build a website and before I was using templates to building one, but then I decided to see if I can make one myself, without help from templates. So when I got a chance to do an Independent with Mr. H, that was one of the first things that came to mind. My basic goal is to build a website outline, like my own template; however, if this goes well, I will love to try and build an interactive website that will be usable in the later years to come. Complete, designed, and finished in my style. An essential question to me about my project is, since I am interested in Software Engineering as my possible career in the later years, how can I benefit from learning about web design and different techniques for building a website?

Implementations and Challenges

So far I am planning on working a lot with Codecademy as a first step to learning on how to build a website, secondly, I will try to use those skills and test them out and see how to use them for a website. As of right now, my research was mostly learning which languages I will need to learn to use in the website. I also looked at other websites and how they had organized their pages. Some other information that I found was that I will be needing a domain name and that requires money, so I'll have to figure out how to get that and I'll have to talk to Mr. H when it comes to that. Some of the challenges that I am anticipating on encountering will be using the coding skills on something that doesn't have a strict format and more of something out of my imagination. Before, I mostly programmed with CodeHS or Arduino, some python but in codecademy, so this will be something totally new to me. However, I believe that challenges are designed for us to try them out, so I believe this will be just another hurdle to jump over.

Impact and Legacy

Through this project I will learn more about programming and coding and how to use HTML and CSS. I will expand my knowledge on Javascript. I will, of course, also learn how to build a website and probably use that knowledge later in whatever my career might take me. This is a very useful skill to know, no matter what you might end up doing. Since I also want to go into Software Engineering this will look good for my college. Overall, this project will benefit me a lot. I don't know what my website will actually contain, but I currently have several ideas. One, have it as a template and leave a copy of it just like that, so if anyone wants to follow up with actually designing it and creating something with it later on. Two, is that I want to create something that has my personality in it and a piece of me left into my website, maybe even later for colleges to see.

Some of the websites that I was looking at had helped me see different designs to have somewhat of an idea for what I want my own website to look like. <http://roosterteeth.com> has a very good website structure and color structure. Another website that was good to see how they used their interactivity was tumblr and see how you can use different JavaScript to both interact with the website and other users.

Appendix A: Key Research Sources

<https://www.codecademy.com/en/courses/make-a-website/lessons/site-structure/exercises/html-css>

I will be using codecademy a lot for this, learning how to use HTML and CSS and website structure, etc. Really glad that codecademy has a course straight to website building, that saves a lot of time and energy.

http://www.htmlgoodies.com/tutorials/getting_started/article.php/3863271

Through this website I am learning more about HTML and CSS and how they work and what their functions are. Will be good to know when I start coding.

<https://fizzle.co/sparkline/timeless-ideas-for-more-visitors>

This includes helpful information and tips on how to make your website more attractable to people for a larger and happier audience. Might as well use at least some of these tips in the website and in sharing it to see who will actually end up looking at it.

<https://www.elegantthemes.com/blog/resources/the-11-best-code-editors-available-in-2015>

This is a good resource to code editors that I can be using. It also has information to download these code editors.

Appendix B: Tools & Materials

- Critical - computer to code on. Hopefully the one I have will work.
- Critical - codecademy account to learn how to code. Created that last year, seems to be working so far
- Necessary - some sort of server to have a domain name
- Necessary - somewhere to code on, to create the website itself
- Optional - audience for the website
- Optional - camera to capture pictures for the website/record data to put on daily blogs.