

Comm 328: Responsive Web Design

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LEF-317

Course Overview

The Web can no longer be thought of as something we interact with solely at our desks in our homes or offices. Instead, we are constantly shifting how and why we access the web. In 2015, 68% of Americans had smartphones while 45% had tablet computers (PEW Research Center). In several countries around the world, mobile usage has actually overtaken desktop usage (StatCounter). The mobile adoption is growing at a breakneck speed and is not expected to slow down any time soon.

Because of these changes we must build our websites with an eye toward the future and let go of the antiquated notion that we might know what type of device or screen size they will be viewed on. We must strive to create websites that adapt to a wide variety of devices. We must also create websites that will continue to work into the future, even as the web technologies we use everyday continue to change.

In this course you build upon your previous knowledge in web design and learn to think of websites as moving pieces that should *respond* to the user.

Office Hours

If you would like to see me outside of class or office hours, please email me to set up an appointment. I work full-time for Simmons as the Lab Manager for the Communications Department and am at Simmons most afternoons and evenings during the week.

Texts

Mobile First

by Luke Wroblewski
ISBN: 9781937557027



Going Responsive

by Karen McGrane
ISBN: 9781937557300



Responsive Design: Patterns & Principles

by Ethan Marcotte
ISBN: 9781937557331

Learning Web Design, 4th Edition

by Jennifer Niederst Robbins
ISBN: 9781449319274



Class Website

All homework and project descriptions will be posted on the class website at:

<http://www.simmons.edu/~grovesd/comm328>



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Attendance & Grading

We will cover a lot of information in this course. The good news is that you will learn something new each class. The “bad” news is that you will really need to come to class, and by “coming to class” I mean, coming to class prepared, having done your reading and homework, ready to ask questions, present your work, and critique the work of others.

Given the importance of your active participation in class not only for yourself, but for your classmates, more than two absences will result in the reduction of your final grade by one full letter grade. If you know you will absent from class, I appreciate notice ahead of time so I can plan accordingly. Whether excused or unexcused, absences will affect your coursework. We will only meet 15 times this semester. I expect you to attend each session. You will receive a zero for your participation grade for each missed class.

Your grade will be determined by a combination of marks received for homework assignments, quizzes, a midterm, and a final project. In addition, participation will be factored into your final grade. You may use the following as a rough guide for your final grade:

Homework:	35%
Quizzes:	10%
Midterm:	10%
Final:	25%
Participation:	20%


Weekly Website Updates

For this course you will be expected to keep your own class website up to date. You should create a web page for each week of class. Each class page should contain the following information:

- Summary of topics we covered
- Links to relevant notes from class
- Links to any demonstration files you created during class
- Links to any assignments done for homework

You should think of your class website as a process book for your journey in the course. Create it as a reference for your future self.

All of your page content should be well-written and thoroughly edited. It should not contain typos or misspellings. If you use other sources or websites, make sure to credit them. It's proper web etiquette to include a link to the source website or article. If you do include a link, check to make sure it works!



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Intellectual Honesty

You're in school to learn, and to improve yourself. Don't take the work of others and present it as your own. Don't let a friend who already knows this stuff do your work for you. You (and they) might be well-meaning, but you need to use your judgment about when someone is helping, and when they are doing your work (and in effect, getting your grade) for you.

If you have questions, ask. If you need help, seek it in class or during office hours. Don't let yourself fall into the trap of getting so focused on the destination, that you miss out on the journey. Perfect grades gained through deceit just aren't worth it in the long run if you didn't learn, and grow, and achieve.

Accommodations for Students

Students with documented disabilities are entitled to appropriate and reasonable accommodations. If you have not already done so, contact the Disabilities Services Office located on the third floor of the Palace Road Building, P304 or via phone at 617-521-2472, or via email at ada@simmons.edu and speak with your instructors.