

project::website

Personal Website Project

Assignment ::

For this Web design project, we will be creating a small personal website about *you*. The site will incorporate content from your Portfolio Booklet project from VC115 (or other content if you were not in that class), as well as other new content, to create a functioning, live website. While there are a number of specific project requirements (see below), the overall style, typography, colors, and tone are up to you.

Required Pages ::

While you do have creative freedom in the design of your site, the finished site must consist of the following five pages. The names of the site pages (and the navigation links to those pages) *must* use the words in bold listed below as their labels.

- A **Home** page with brief introductory information to the website.
- A **Biography** page which must include a short biography and photo of yourself.
- A **Portfolio** page which includes all of the content from your Portfolio Booklet project. We will be presenting all of the pieces on a single, scrolling page. This includes the introduction and descriptions you wrote for the project. The images should be thumbnail size, and include a “view larger version” option, so that when clicked the larger version is visible.
- A **Links** page, which include at least five *external* links of your choice.
- A **Contact** page with an e-mail link to your e-mail (fake e-mail address and contact info is OK).

Design Requirements ::

Your website must meet the following design criteria:

- Use **one of the layout templates** provided by the instructor as a starting point for your site. These templates will be available on the class Web server.
- Design should be created by **modifying** the provided layout and typography options as presented in the Cascading Style Sheet files (`common/css/student_styles.css`). Explore and modify the options, giving the template a unique look.
- The design must be *customized*, staying away from the default look as much as possible. Changes to page colors (foreground and background), customization of typefaces and text sizing, and the use of additional imagery should all be considered. All elements on the Web pages must display unity of design, colorization, and style.
- For typography, you must use at least one typeface from **Google Fonts**. Do *not* use any typefaces provided in the templates.
- Raster artwork may be designed and optimized in Photoshop and brought in HTML. Use raster graphics selectively (a graphic for the header is one possibility). Be sure to use the **File > Export > Save for Web (Legacy)...** feature of Photoshop to optimize your images, and follow the optimization hints given in class.
- Use **non-default colors** and styling for links (for normal, visited, active, and hover states).
- Text must be formatted using CSS, with Web typefaces, sizes specified in ems, and content structured using header and paragraph tags.
- Create a `mailto:` e-mail link on the Contact page.

Technical Requirements ::

Your website must meet the following technical requirements:

- Every page must use a consistent design based on a common template.
 - **Pro Tip One:** Create one page of your site and make it just right. Then, duplicate that page for use as a template for the other pages.
 - **Pro Tip Two:** To style pages individually using a common style sheet, give the `<body>` tag of each page a class. For example, the Portfolio page could have a `<body class="portfolio">` element, the Links page `<body class="links">`.
- Each page must have an appropriate page title (the `<title>` tag).
- Google Fonts is used for at least one typeface in the design.
- Images must be saved in the appropriate file format and compressed using the optimizations methods discussed in class.
- When exporting from Photoshop, consider setting a maximum pixel height for all images. For example, 650px is a height that works on many different screen sizes, and let the width vary from image to image.
- Images must be located in the `/common/art/` (or similar) folder.
- Pages and images must be uploaded to the correct folder on the VC237 Web server.
- When viewed while hosted on the Web server, there should be no broken links or missing images.
- The file name of the Home page should be `index.html`.
- All files must have names appropriate for web use.

Dates & Deliverables ::

Website pages should meet the criteria listed above, and demonstrate thoughtfulness in page layout, design, typography, colorization, and image optimization. Final HTML layout should display without significant visual and typographical errors when viewed online in a Web browser.

All project files should be uploaded to the VC Web server into a directory with your name on the server. Be sure to upload your site well before the beginning of class for so that you can test the site at this address:

`http://vc237.chemeketa.vc/your_folder/`

FTP connection information and uploading instructions will be given out later in the term.

The completed project is due at **5:00 PM on Wednesday, May 7th, 2025** (Week 06) and is worth 100 points. You will have much of class time on that date to work on the project with help from the instructor.