

CS 101 section 2, Winter 2009

Instructor: Michael Kowalczyk

Office: 1127 New Science Facility

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Office Hours: Noon - 12:50pm MWRF, or by appointment

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Class Meetings: 10:00am-10:50am MWRF in 1205 New Science Facility

Course Home Page: <http://cs.nmu.edu/~mkowalcz/cs101>

Overview:

This course is an introduction to creating web pages from scratch using HTML (more precisely, we will use XHTML) and CSS. We will learn to read and write the language directly and gain a detailed understanding of the technology rather than using high-level tools such as Dreamweaver or FrontPage. We will also explore relevant technical, legal, and copyright issues in publishing content on the web. Toward the end of the course, we will learn how to write basic Java applets for our web pages.

Prerequisites:

None (other than basic computer literacy).

Textbook:

Our textbook is *Build Your Own Web Site the Right Way using HTML & CSS* (1st or 2nd edition), by Ian Lloyd. Apparently, this book is so popular that the bookstore is having difficulty finding enough copies for everyone. Fortunately, you have free access to an electronic copy through the NMU Olson Library via *Books 24x7*; the course website has a link to it. You might find it handy to have a hard copy even if the electronic one is available for free, and that's a personal choice. It costs on the order of \$20 to \$30 online and the bookstore should be getting more copies sometime in February.

Equipment:

You will need a laptop computer with a text editor, web browser, FTP program, the JDK (Java), and Internet access. Most of this is already installed if you have an NMU laptop. The rest of it can be installed for free, and directions for installing them are on the course website. If for some reason you don't have a laptop computer, talk to me right away, since we will be using them for in-class exercises.

Grading:

Grades will be based upon in-class and take-home assignments and quizzes, as well as a written midterm, final exam, and class participation. The breakdown is as follows:

50% Quizzes and Assignments

20% Midterm

25% Final

5% Participation

Late Policy:

I strive to grade and hand back your work as quickly as I can, and I sometimes provide model solutions at the time when your work is due. Because of this, it usually isn't possible to get a grade for late work. If for some reason you are not able to hand something in on time, I still encourage you to hand it in, and I will be happy to correct it and give you valuable feedback, but it is unlikely to count for a grade (although in some cases, late work may count for a little bit if your final grade in the course turns out to be on the border between two letter grades).

Exam Dates & Schedule Conflicts:

The midterm exam will be during our regular class meeting on Friday, February 27 (just before Spring break). The final exam will be on Tuesday, April 28 from 10:00am until 11:50am. Any conflicts with class meetings or the exams (due to religious observances, other coursework, intercollegiate athletics, etc) must be made known to me within the first two weeks of the semester.

Laptop Use:

Laptops open up great opportunities and possibilities in the classroom, but using it for stuff not related to the course will distract others and negatively impact your participation grade. Although we will use computers extensively during class, I will also frequently need your full attention and will ask you to close your laptop at these times. I post lecture notes for the class so you don't have to split your attention, and in return I expect your full focus.

Academic Conduct:

Students are expected to uphold the student code and work with honesty and integrity. In particular, academic dishonesty of any sort will almost certainly result in a letter to the Dean of Students, with consequences outlined in section 2.2.3 of the student code. If you aren't sure if a particular action is allowed, ask me. If you're not sure if the way you are using someone else's work might constitute plagiarism, cite the source (or ask me).

Formal Communication Studies Requirement:

This course satisfies the Formal Communication Studies requirement. This course is designed to introduce students to the ways in which information and ideas are expressed using a communication system other than English. Such courses should foster the student's ability to conceptualize and communicate in an orderly, rational manner. Characteristics of a communication system include: 1) possession of a grammar; 2) operation from an established set of rules; 3) reasoning properties such as deduction, inference drawing and problem solving. This includes courses in languages and those in which the central focus of the course is on statistics, computers or formal logic.

Disability Services:

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office by: coming into the office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock; calling 227-1700; or e-mailing disserv@nmu.edu. Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.