

SEP. 12 2001

## OA 2095 - Basic Internet Fundamentals & Web design

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Instructor  
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Classroom  
A313  
  
Times  
Tues., Thurs, and Fri. 13:00 - 14:20

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will give students a working knowledge of the internet, using a hands-on, lab-based approach. Students will learn to design web sites using XHTML and Cascading Style Sheets. They will learn about web hosts and how to use FTP Software to transfer their files. Students will design and construct a website and publish it on the World Wide Web.

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### BASIS:

The basis for this course is to start at the entry-level, and learn how to author web sites from scratch, following strict international standards. The reason for this is that such web sites are better structured, more efficient, and easier to manage. Also, because the newest standards are xml based, these web sites can be targeted to other types of user agents, such as hand-held devices, braille readers, voice browsers, printers, and so on.

No prior experience in html is needed. In fact, if you have never used html before you are better off, because you will have no bad habits to break. A lot of the old html has been deprecated, and every element now has a very specific functional purpose. Anything that has to do with visual appearance is now handled with style sheets.

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### PREREQUISITES:

Certificate in OA or BA (or permission of instructor). The course notes are available online. If you want to access them from home, you will need an internet connection there of course.

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### GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will be able to use text editors, browsers, and ftp software.
  2. Students will be able to design and hand-code static web sites that are compliant with W3C recommendations for XHTML 1.0 Strict and CSS:
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## RESOURCE MATERIALS

The following textbook is prescribed for this course.

Graham, I.S. 2000. *XHTML 1.0 language and design sourcebook*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Toronto, 692 pp., ISBN No 0-471-37485-7.

Do not be intimidated by this textbook. It appears to be very technical and detailed. However, it will be used more as a reference, rather than like a traditional textbook. The same book will be used for the next course in Web Design as well (OA 2096). Once you learn how to use it, you will find it to be a valuable resource for years to come.

Another valuable reference is the W3C specifications. The W3C provides free access to online references and to their specifications.

- The W3C Specification for XHTML 1.0 is available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1>
- The W3C Specification for HTML 4.01 is available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/html401>
- The W3C Specification for CSS Level 1 is available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS1>
- The W3C Specification for CSS Level 2 is available at <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2>

You can access the above references online at any time. The W3C also provides the above specifications in Adobe portable document format (.pdf). You will need the Adobe Acrobat Reader to read that format. It is a free download from Adobe. It is very useful for managing long documents like these. I will provide links to each of these downloads at the appropriate time.

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## CONDUCT OF COURSE:

The course is delivered live in computer lab A313 in the fall semester and the lecture notes are available online. The content is divided into three five-week modules: Each module contains 9 lessons. During each module, each student will develop a web site. It will be uploaded to the college server for evaluation. There will also be a combined practical/written test at the end of each module.

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## COURSE CONTENT

### Module 1 - Basic Structure

- 1.1 Background on HTML
- 1.2 Page Structure - the basic tags
- 1.3 Headings, Paragraphs and Lists
- 1.4 Links, Anchors and URLs
- 1.5 Tables
- 1.6 Misc. tags and Special Characters
- 1.7 The img element and its attributes
- 1.8 Background Sound and Linking to External non-HTML Files

### Module 2 - Applying Styles

- 2.1 Background on CSS
- 2.2 Approaches to CSS
- 2.3 Introduction to CSS Properties
- 2.4 CSS Units and Values, Text Properties
- 2.5 Font Properties
- 2.6 Background and Color Properties
- 2.7 The Box Model - Margin and Padding Properties
- 2.8 The Box Model - Border Properties
- 2.9 The Float and Clear Properties

### Module 3 - Forms and Positioning

- 3.1 Introduction to HTML Forms
- 3.2 HTML Forms, continued
- 3.3 Button on Forms
- 3.4 Introduction to CSS Positioning
- 3.5 CSS Positioning, Continued
- 3.6 Three Dimensional Positioning
- 3.7 Browser Problems with Positioning and Sizing

## GRADING SYSTEM

GPCC uses the 9-point grading system as explained on page 30 of the College calendar.

Note that a grade of '4' will earn you credit for the course, but it does not entitle you to proceed to certain other courses without special approval. So for the record, consider the passmark to be 5.

The main factor that influences your grade is your weighted average, which I will calculate as follows:

Module 1	Web Site Assignment	20
	Module Test	20
Module 2	Web Site Assignment	15
	Module Test	15
Module 3	Web Site Assignment	15
	Final Test	15
		<b>TOTAL 100</b>

That weighted average translates roughly into the 9-point system as follows:

<b>Weighted Average %</b>	<b>9-Point Grade</b>
90 - 100	9
80 - 89	8
72 - 79	7
65 - 71	6
57 - 64	5
50 - 56	4
45 - 49	3
26 - 44	2
0 - 25	1