COURSE TITLE: WEB PAGE LAYOUT AND DESIGN WITH CSS
COURSE CODE: MDIA1001
LEVEL: 1
CREDITS: 3
DURATION: ONE SEMESTER
PRE-REQUISITES: NONE

DESCRIPTION
This course provides an understanding of the methodologies used for laying out text and images on the World Wide Web.

RATIONALE
This course is fundamental to an understanding of digital media production. It provides the basic skills required to do effective presentation of content for modern web browsers, with an emphasis on web standards and usability.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
On successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- Explain essential web concepts of TCP/IP, Application Protocols (HTTP, FTP, POP, IMAP etc.);
- Explain the client/server architecture;
- Identify client/server and their protocol (e.g. web browser uses HTTP to communicate with web server);
- Distinguish between server side and client side languages;
- Explain why learning HTML can improve your web designing skill;
- Identify the components of an HTML Tag (tags, attributes and elements);
- Mark-up a simple HTML document with headings and paragraphs;
- Distinguish between block elements and inline elements;
- Interpret a Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) Rule;
- Identify the components of a CSS Rule (selectors, properties and values);
- Explain the purpose of the CSS Box Model;
- Adjust the look of websites using CSS;
- Work effectively with the CSS Box Model;
- Use CSS positioning to manage the location of items in a webpage;
- Distinguish between inline, internal and external style sheets;
- Create a simple HTML document which uses an external style sheet;
- Reconstruct an existing webpage from its elements.

**COURSE CONTENT**

Foundational Technologies

TCP/IP - The Internet Protocol Suite

Introduction to XHTML

Overview to Cascading Style sheets

Survey of other Supporting and Related Technologies

CSS Fundamentals

Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) Rules

Inline, internal and external style sheets

Introduction to the CSS Box Model

Adjusting the look of websites using CSS

CSS Techniques

Using CSS Selectors
The CSS Box Model(s)

Useful CSS Patterns: Creating rounded corners, transparency, replacing text with images, layouts, styling type, positioning elements, Integrating CSS and JavaScript, Creating drop caps, callouts, quotes, and alerts.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Assessments will be based on course assignments and one integrated project. Participants will be required to maintain a blog, blog entries will be assessed. Course assignments will be a mix of take home assignments and in-class assignments and tests. See the breakdown below:

In class Assignment 1 (10%)
In class Assignment 2 (10%)
Take Home Assignment 1 (10%)
Take Home Assignment 2 (10%)
In class Test (MCQ) (10%)

Integrated final project: Students will be required to produce a website, using the techniques learned during the course (35%)

Blog: Students will be required to keep journal entries of each class and other observations related to things learned in class = (15%)

TEACHING METHOD

Lectures
Demonstrations
Workshops
Screencasts

PRESCRIBED TEXT


PRESCRIBED RESOURCES

http://delicious.com/pigeonflight/css
http://www.thenoodleincident.com/tutorials/box_lesson/boxes.html
http://webtypography.net/
http://www.albinoblacksheep.com/livedesign/
http://www.ampsoft.net/webdesign-l/WindowsMacFonts.html
http://reference.sitepoint.com/css/haslayout