ADIT134001, Exploring the Internet,
Fall, 2015

Instructor: James Walker
Email: walkerjj@bc.edu
Office: 250 - O’Neill Library
Office Hours: upon request and after class
Telephone: 617-552-8622
Schedule: Tuesdays 6:15–9:15pm
Room: O’Neill 246

Boston College Mission Statement
Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation’s finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description
This course takes a tour of the essential technologies that have shaped today’s Internet. Along the way, students acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills needed to make the best use of this vast repository of information. Course focuses on web-site development using the core dynamic html technologies such as HTML5 and Cascading Stylesheets (CSS). Students gain a clearer understanding of just what exactly the Internet is through the study of its history and underlying protocols. No prior web-development experience and no prerequisites are required. Course is a prerequisite for all programming courses. No auditors.

Course Objectives
1. This is an introductory web development course designed to help students gain factual knowledge about the basic technical and analytical skills needed to create, maintain, and troubleshoot web sites.

2. This course will introduce the fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories used in web site development and provide a foundation of tools and references which can
be used and expanded later for more advanced web site functionality.

3. Students will learn to apply the course material to identify a general area of interest and build a website, and demonstrate a basic understanding of the advanced functionality of sites through use of multimedia, scripting, and social media.

4. Throughout the semester, we will analyze a range of existing sites and critically evaluate the organization of content, ease of use, accessibility, form and style, advanced functionality, and technical issues. This will also help students develop creative capacities for web design.

5. In learning about the different methodologies of web design and development, and how different roles and functions are integrated into the development lifecycle process, students will develop specific skills and competencies needed by professionals in the field on web development.

6. Students will demonstrate knowledge across cultural settings and will learn the impact of culture, gender, and age in the evolution of the internet and in web site development.

7. Students will demonstrate ethical knowledge pertaining to fair use of shared resources on the web, code development, and copyrighted material.

**Grading**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework Assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Class Blog</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**WCAS Grading System**

The undergraduate grading system consists of twelve categories: A (4.00), A- (3.67), excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67), good; C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67), satisfactory; D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67), passing but unsatisfactory; F (.00), failure; I (.00), incomplete; F (.00), course dropped without notifying office; W (.00), official withdrawal from course. The graduate grading system is A (4.00), A- (3.67), Excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), good; B- (2.67), C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit; F (.00), failure.

Grade Reports. All students are required to log into the web through Agora to access their semester grades. Students must utilize their BC username and password to log on. If your username or password is not known the HELP Desk located in the Campus Technology Resource Center (CTRC) in O’Neill Library will issue a new one. The CTRC requires a valid picture ID (a BC ID, driver’s license or passport) to obtain your password.

**Text(s)/Readings (Required)**
Text(s)/Readings (Recommended)
http://www.webdevfoundations.net/6e/index.html
http://www.w3.org/

Important Policies
http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/advstudies/guide/academicinteg.html

Written Work
Graduate and undergraduate students are expected to prepare professional, polished written work. Written materials must be typed in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough, yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using APA, MLA, CLA format per instructors decision. Develop your thoughts fully, clearly, logically and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use of proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling. You are encouraged to make use of campus resources for refining writing skills as needed [http://www.bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html].

Scholarship and Academic Integrity
It is expected that students will produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to reference properly is plagiarism. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on examinations or assignments, and submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student’s work.

Request for Accommodations
If you have a disability and will be requesting accommodations for this course, please register with either Dr. Kathy Duggan (dugganka@bc.edu), Associate Director, Connors Family Learning Center (learning disabilities or AHD) or Dean Paulette Durrett, (paulette.durrett@bc.edu), Assistant Dean for students with disabilities, (all other disabilities). Advance notice and appropriate documentation are required for accommodations.
http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/libraries/help/tutoring/specialservices.html

Attendance
Class attendance is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive by the beginning of and remain for the entire class period. When an occasion occurs that prevents a student from attending class, it is the student’s obligation to inform the instructor of the conflict before the class meets. The student is still expected to meet all assignment deadlines. If a student knows that he or she will be absent on a particular day, the student is responsible for seeing the instructor beforehand to obtain the assignments for that day. If a student misses a class, he or she is responsible
for making up the work by obtaining a classmate’s notes and handouts and turning in any assignments due. Furthermore, many instructors give points for participation in class. If you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Types of absences that are not typically excused include weddings, showers, vacations, birthday parties, graduations, etc. Additional assignments, penalties and correctives are at the discretion of the instructor. If circumstances necessitate excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class. In all cases, students are expected to accept the decision of the instructor regarding attendance policies specific to the class.

Consistent with our commitment of creating an academic community that is respectful of and welcoming to persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing the fulfillment of their academic obligations. It is the responsibility of students to review course syllabi as soon as they are distributed and to consult the faculty member promptly regarding any possible conflicts with observed religious holidays. If asked, the student should provide accurate information about the obligations entailed in the observance of that particular holiday. However, it is the responsibility of the student to complete any and all class requirements for days that are missed due to conflicts due to religious holidays.

There may be circumstances that necessitate a departure from this policy. Feel free to contact the WCAS at 617-552-3900 for consultation.

Deadlines
Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the specified dates. Late assignments are eligible for half-credit only and arrangements must be made with the instructor for submitting late assignments.

Course Assignments (readings, exercises and/or experiences)
Major topics for this course include:

- essential technologies and best practices – HTML5, CSS, security, accessibility, ethics
- site architecture and design
- roles and processes involved in web site development
- advanced functionality – multimedia integration, forms, search engines, social media

It is expected that 83/4 hours per week of your study time will be spent on out of class assignments and exercises. This includes the additional time needed for courses that meet for 2 ½ hours per week to fulfill the requirements for 4 credit hours. Please note that some weeks will require more time and some weeks less time, but the average is approximately 83/4 hours per week over the semester. Approximately 45-50 minutes per week will be spent viewing and commenting on a relevant talk or presentation, via a class blog.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assign Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading / Exercises</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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</table>
| 9/1         | Course introduction, class tools & account set up  
History & evolution of the internet | Read Ch. 1, 2  
HW #1 – personal statement | 9/8 |
| 9/8         | Standards & accessibility, protocols, ethical guidelines, overview of HTML & basic tags | HW #2 – web site review  
Ch. 1, pg. 22  
“Focus on Web Design” - #1 a, b, c, d, g, h | 9/15 |
| 9/15        | Formatting, lists, links, div element, HTML validation | Read Ch. 3  
HW #3  
Ch. 2, pg. 45-46  
“Hands-On Practice” - #2.9  
Ch. 2, pg. 60  
“Find the Error” - #3 | 9/22 |
| 9/22        | Overview of CSS, basic style elements | In class: Quiz #1  
HW #4  
complete Ch. 2 case study, pg. 62-75  
Ch. 3, pg. 113  
“Find the Error” - #3  
“Hands-On Exercises” - #1, 2 | 9/29 |
| 9/29        | External style sheets, enhanced functionality, CSS validation | Read Ch. 4  
HW #5  
Complete Ch. 3 case study, pg. 116-127 | 10/13 |
| 10/6        | Page layout & design, images | HW #6  
Ch. 4, pg. 178  
“Hands-On Exercises” - #1, 2, 3 | 10/13 |
| 10/13       | NO CLASS | | |
| 10/20       | Graphics & visual effects | Read Ch. 5, 10  
Midterm | 10/27 |
| 10/27       | Site architecture, navigation, best practices, accessibility  
Phases of project development, team roles, site hosting | Read Ch. 9  
HW #7 – web site review  
Ch. 5, pg. 217  
“Focus on Web Design” - #1 | 11/3 |
| 11/3        | Overview of forms, input elements, data processing | Read Ch. 11  
HW #8  
Ch. 9, pg. 397-398 | 11/10 |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Multimedia integration, plugins, interactivity</td>
<td>HW #9&lt;br&gt;Ch. 11, pg. 478&lt;br&gt;“Hands-On Exercises” - #5, 6</td>
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<td>Search engine optimization, site promotion</td>
<td>In class: Quiz #2&lt;br&gt;HW #10&lt;br&gt;Ch. 13, pg. 538&lt;br&gt;“Hands-On Exercises” - #1</td>
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<td>Content management systems, misc. advanced topics</td>
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<td>12/1</td>
<td>Client-side libraries: javascript and jquery</td>
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<td>12/8</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>General review and project work</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/15</td>
<td>Project presentations</td>
<td>Final web site project presentation</td>
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