Building Your First Website

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HTML

markup language + cascading style sheet = website
html templates allow for easy content addition
requires web design knowledge to manipulate
design, insertion of visuals/visualizations, etc
html standards change over time
Content Management Systems

- Database with html front end that queries/renders on demand
- Use PHP application w/ admin panel
- Universal modules and organizational elements
- Ability to change templates and visual elements without having to rebuild entire site
Content Management Systems

Multi-user abilities by site sections

Modular add-ons: blogs, visualizations, analytics

Universal modules and organizational elements

Search engine optimization built in

Search engine friendly
Principles of Accessible Design

- Hyperlinks open in same browser window
- Access keys to navigate menus and sub-menus
- Include audio shortcuts and transcripts
- Include alternative text for all images
Principles of Accessible Design

Include style sheet support for text sizing

Use consistent elements correctly marked

Flash content includes text transcription

Javascript alternative/javascript non-enabled

Include multiple formats of documents
Migration/Transferability

Update regularly

Document any changes

Keep a copy of major versions of your site: Internet Archive

Never build on your own server, unless you plan to keep the site forever
Hosting

Never build on your own server, unless you plan to keep the site forever.

Faculty move regularly: 3-5 years.

Resources change regularly.
Credits

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“Building Your First Website”
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