

INTRODUCTION TO BUILDING YOUR OWN PROFESSIONAL WEBSITE

Summer 2022 | Cinoglu

Welcome!

On behalf of the Texas Career Engagement office, I'd like to welcome you to the Summer 2022 semester. My goal is to create an inclusive and equitable learning environment for all of you! Please reach out to me as soon as possible if there are any academic or personal struggles I can help with. I am excited to see everyone's professional websites and how you will be using technical skills to elevate your professional persona!

Course Description

This course will empower graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in non-STEM fields by teaching them the nuances of the website construction tool GitHub so that they may more effectively advertise skills common in non-STEM fields, such as “creativity, complex information processing, empathy, critical thinking, and communication,” (Kyriazi). Specifically, we will be covering the basics of programming relevant to website development (HTML and CSS) with GitHub, which is a transferable skill participants can further build on if they are interested.

To summarize, at the end of the course you will have:

- Basic programming skills in HTML and CSS.
- Familiarity with basic commands in GitHub.
- Used VS Code.
- An understanding of how website design elements convey/elevate professional personas and messages.
- At least draft or a final version of your professional website.

Course Structure and Attendance

This course consists of 4 weeks of 3-hour workshops which will require attendance. Every week, I will hold an additional hour-long office hour to supplement the materials covered in the workshop. This will be optional for participants who have questions regarding the weekly course content. At the end of the course, we will be welcoming an outside speaker.

Tentatively, the five-week syllabus for the program is as follows:

Week 1: Basics of GitHub (How do I get an account from GitHub? How do I generally use GitHub? How do I set up my domain at GitHub? How do I get my bearings to start coding?)

Week 2: Choosing a web design template (How can I edit a web design template to make a unique GitHub website? Going over specific technical examples of coding edits to build a unique professional website.)

Week 3: Working on customizing a web design template to be unique and specific to a graduate students' or postdoc's professional needs I. (Basic commands in HTML and CSS.)

Week 4: Working on customizing a web design template to be unique and specific to a graduate students' or postdoc's professional needs II. (Intermediate commands in HTML and CSS.)

Week 5: Outside speaker invited to talk about what to include in one's professional website. (Strategizing for website content with tips and tricks.)

Required Materials

You will be building your professional website using a computer and various software. If you do not have access to a computer of your own, please contact me as soon as possible and we can think of various accommodations together. In terms of software, we will be using HTML and CSS. Before the first day of class, please come prepared by having downloaded VS Code and GitHub Desktop to your computer and having gotten an account on GitHub.

Important Policies

- **Honor code:** This course follows the honor code stated by the University of Texas: “The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.” I expect all assignments will be your own work, thus, all submissions will be checked for evidence of cheating. In the case of cheating, I will be acting according to the University’s honor code policies:
http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint_conseq.php
- **Religious holy days:** Please notify me at least fourteen days prior to the religious holy day. I will be giving you additional time to complete any assignments following this day.
- **Students with disabilities:** I am committed to create an accessible learning environment which is consistent with the university’s policy, state and federal law. If you are a student with a disability, or think you might have a disability, please contact the SSD office for any accommodations (<http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>) as soon as possible.
- **Title IX reporting:** Title IX is a federal law that protects against sex and gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment and assault, inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature, dating/domestic violence and stalking at federally funded educational institutions. I am a mandatory reporter under Title IX and I have to report any related incidents to the Title IX Office at the university. For more information on the office, contact: titleix@austin.utexas.edu. If you would like to seek support on related topics without making an official report: advocate@austin.utexas.edu.
- **Sharing of course materials:** No materials used for this class (including the lecture slides, pdf examples, assignments) can be shared without my explicit consent.