

Overview

For our first project, you will create a WordPress site to serve as a repository for all of your work for this class. It will primarily house information related to your independent project, but there should also be a place for links to your JavaScript work and final site.

You have the option of using a child theme to design your site or to create a custom theme. If you choose the child theme, the only optional component that you can complete is creating a responsive design.

All components will be evaluated using the following scale:

Excellent		Good		Acceptable		Poor	Unacceptable
25	24	23	21	20	19	16	0

Required Components

Initial Content & Site Organization *25 points*

At the time of our critique, your site should include one blog post for your independent project, as well as introductory material describing your topic and any other information you deem relevant.

Your site should be set up to accommodate future content for both your independent project and our other course work. You are welcome to create blank pages to denote where future content will go.

If any of your content is based on information from another source, you should include a link to that source within the text or at the bottom of the page on which it appears. If you directly quote something, you must indicate it is a quote and provide a link to where the quote was taken from.

Note: If you are absent for the critique on Monday, February 10, 5 points will be deducted from this portion of your grade.

Layout & Design *25 points*

Your grade for this component will be based on the overall quality of your design. I will be looking to see that your design compliments your content, provides clear navigation, and makes good use of typography, color, balance, and contrast. Your design should be polished and reflect a high level of attention to detail.

Optional Components

Custom Theme *50 points*

Layout & Design *25 points – same grade as layout & design required component*

Code *25 points*

Your grade for this component will be based on the overall quality and clarity of your code, including the structure of your theme files. Make sure your code is neat and logically organized, and don't forget to check for validation errors. Your theme should contain the following files: style.css, index.php, and functions.php.

If you use code from another source (besides me), make sure to include a link to that source as a comment in your code, as well as any helpful information as to how you used it.

Extra Theme Files *25 points*

If you choose to include extra theme files, your theme will be expected to include the following files in addition to those listed above: header.php, footer.php, and at least two of the following; page.php, single.php, archive.php, or any custom templates. This component will use the same criteria as the code section above, but will evaluate just the extra theme files.

Responsive Design *25 points*

For this component, I will look to see that you have created a flexible layout (percentages and ems instead of pixels) and used media queries to make your site responsive. Your site should look good and function correctly at all sizes, so be sure to check for issues with menus, images, etc. as you resize your browser.

*Schedule*Wednesday, January 22

Project introduction
WordPress day 1

Monday, January 27

WordPress day 2

Wednesday, January 29

Independent project progress check 1
Work day

Monday, February 3

Work day

Wednesday, February 5

Work day

Monday, February 10

Site due via email by 9am
Critique

Submission

Email me a link to your site by 9am on Monday, February 10, making sure to include a list of the optional components you would like me to grade as a part of your project.

I will also need FTP access to your web hosting and an admin user on your WordPress site, but these will be completed in class.