

Web Design Basics: Tools, Tips, & Tricks

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<http://www.tc.umn.edu/~rbeach/teachingmedia/ohara/>

With this project, I attempted to outline the fundamental aspects of web design: planning; content; navigation schemes; HTML, including the basics of saving files, tags and coding, links, and tables; cascading style sheets; web color; and incorporating images into a page. I envision using this website in conjunction with classroom exploration and practice with high school juniors and/or seniors.

As a final project in this unit that I anticipate would take several weeks, the students would create their own websites that incorporate the various elements outlined in the unit. The students would get a chance to demonstrate their skill with each of the fundamentals of web design. In addition to a rough outline or sketch of their sites and the sites themselves, I expect students to write a one-page reflective essay on the process. I also expect some cooperative learning of sorts, a workshop environment of give-and-take among the students. I envision a classroom in which "Hey, how did you do that?" is met with "Here, let me show you." Only through this hands-on practice and cooperative atmosphere can students be expected to learn the ins and outs of web design. This unit would be an in-depth version of Aaron Doering's technology course, one in which students are not expected to sink or swim on their own but to swim together.

My project does not include instructions on how to upload files to a server because it's a theoretical server at this point in time and that process can vary. In this theoretical dream classroom, everyone has access to a computer and the internet and these computers carry the necessary software.