

REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR WEBSITE: DESIGN, NAVIGATION & CONTENT

Now that you have created the initial text for your Digital Project, we need to create a website to house it. Creating a website is an art form that involves being conscious of navigational structure, design elements and readable content. The basic content for your website is the two chapters that you have chosen from *Frankenstein*.

When creating websites, we always have to keep in mind the critical value of our technological tools. In other words, just because something is “cool” doesn’t mean that it belongs on your website. The design (colors, graphics, fonts) must have a purpose, and the navigation must be intuitive.

PAGE CREATOR, DESIGN & NAVIGATION

To create your *Frankenstein* web pages, log into your Gmail account and go to Page Creator: <http://pages.google.com/>. From here, click “Create New Site.”

Page Creator then asks you which design template and structure you would like. Each page in your website will have navigation (see this site for an example:

http://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/harris/StudentProjects/Steinbeck_Arthur/about.html) This structure should be the identical on every page that you create in your website.

Each navigation word or phrase will take the user to a different page. Your navigational structure can always be edited, but the entire effectiveness of a site relies upon an intuitive navigation. For this reason, below are the required pages (and hence navigation words) that are required for your website:

Home/Index -	Page Creator already sets this up as your first page. When someone clicks on your URL, this is the first page that she will see.
About –	This will be the placeholder for your Rationale. The About page also identifies you as a student in this class at SJSU, provides your contact info and date of revision.
Chapter 1 -	This is your first chapter; use the chapter & volume number from the book.
Chapter 2 -	This is your second chapter; use the chapter & volume number from the book.
Works Cited -	This is your Works Cited for the URL and any images, websites or other resources that you use for your project. Use MLA style to list the sources. (You will not be able to indent the second lines so it's fine to list them in single space.)

This is your basic skeleton. As you become more comfortable with Page Creator, you will most likely want to add pages to your navigational structure. For instance, your poetry explication, and the remaining assignments, will be incorporated into your web pages – either as an individual pages or as linked pages to one of your chapter pages. (You may find that particular words in your chapters need to be hyperlinked to your explication.) You may always add more words to the navigational structure. Be careful that it does not become too convoluted, though.

The design of your website is equally as important as its content. With a poor design, users will not be able to read or use your site. Over the last week, you’ve spent some time browsing through sites and should have a sense of which sites were most effectively designed. Color, fonts, background, images, layout and more influence the design aspects. For tips on designing a website see, the following two websites:

King Library, SJSU: http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/literacy/info_comp/evaluating.htm#web
Lesley University: http://www.lesley.edu/library/guides/research/evaluating_web.html

Websites that are one long document, have flashing images, use green text or uneven font sizes are not aesthetically effective. With the same aesthetics in mind, remember that too much technology on a page will detract from the goal of this site: to provide a critical view of your chapters. This means that even if you know how to embed videos into your site or make the text jump around – that does not mean it *should* be incorporated into the site.

You will be able to name your own website URL. So we can find each other easily on the Web, name your site as follows:

Frankenstein.[last name] = Frankenstein.Harris

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