DIFD 151 – Introduction to Information Design  
(Web Applications)

Writing Assignment

The writing assignment is to visit three of the websites listed below and write a review paper to summarize the web technologies that each website utilizes.

2. Facebook (http://www.facebook.com)
3. Amazon (http://www.amazon.com)
4. CNN (http://www.cnn.com)
5. Zen Garden (http://www.csszengarden.com)

For each website you choose,

First, write an introductory paragraph, discussing what the site is for, who the target audience for the site is, and a typical interaction that a regular visitor might have with the site.

Then, write a few paragraphs to discuss the technologies that you can identify the website has used. Questions to consider may include:

- How much of your interaction is executed on the server and how much on the client?
- Give an example of when the interaction moves to the server.
- How much does this site use contents from other sites (e.g. google, youtube).
- What kind of web programming technologies may be used for developing the website?
- Is there a way to search the site?
- What about style? Do all pages use the same style? Does it look like there's an external style sheet involved?
- Does the website control the page layout? Do all pages use the same page layout?
- What kind of information do you think the site kept on you as a casual visitor? If the site allows people to register as members, what kind of information do you think the site keeps on its members?

Finally, include a brief concluding paragraph for each site.

Altogether, each site report should be 1.5 to 2 pages long, so the entire paper should come to around 5 pages. Microsoft word is required. Use 12-point Times Roman font, double spacing, with 1 inch top, bottom, and side margins

Submit your paper to me via e-mail (wangx@winthrop.edu) by midnight of Thursday, February 21, 2013.