

## Creating a Website Workshop

April 19, 2007

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### Part I : Getting Started

You already have web space on the SCILS server: <http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~username> - just need to set it up!

But, you need a SCILS-specific account and password, different from your RCI or eden one.

Instructions outline:

- Create a public\_html folder, and set the appropriate security settings, using an SSH program. You only have to do this part once.

Follow UNIX instructions at <http://www.nbcs.rutgers.edu/www.php>.

For Macs, use "terminal" function

Begin by typing "ssh username@scils.rutgers.edu" - you'll be prompted for your password. Follow the setup instructions above. When you're done, type "exit" to leave the connection smoothly.

For Windows, download PuTTY or other SSH client from <http://www.nbcs.rutgers.edu/ssh/index.php3>

Start the program, enter in "scils.rutgers.edu" as host name and press enter; type username and password at prompts.

- Create a file that you want to post. You can hand code this or use any number of programs (Dreamweaver, NoteTab, etc).

- Put your file in your public\_html folder, using an FTP program.

For Macs, download Fugu from <http://rsug.id.umich.edu/software/fugu>

For Windows, download WinSCP from <http://www.nbcs.rutgers.edu/newdocs/winscp/winscp.php3> or FileZilla from

<http://filezilla.sourceforge.net>

Create a file called index.html as your main page (<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~username> and

<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~username.index.html> go to the same place). Then create as many other files, and directories containing files, as you like. Don't forget to link to these files on your index page, or no one will know that they're there!

Rutgers Web Toolkit and Resources page may also be helpful, although some parts are out of date: <http://toolkit.rutgers.edu>

## Part 2: Hand coding

This is one way to create a web file - not particularly pretty but easy and functional (sample text is taken from *The Giver* by Lois Lowry)

The basic format for a hand coded website looks like this: ([http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~jratzan/workshop\\_sample.html](http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~jratzan/workshop_sample.html))

```
<html>
<body>
```

```
<title>insert title here</title>
```

```
It was almost December, and Jonas was beginning to be frightened.
```

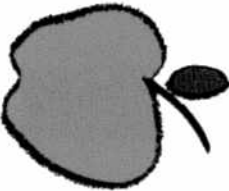
```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Website files should be saved as .html files - TextEdit and similar programs can do this, but Word is awkward

Some useful HTML tags:

Tag function	Type it like this...	It looks like this...
italicize	<code>&lt;i&gt;We really have to protect people from wrong choices.&lt;/i&gt;</code>	<i>We really have to protect people from wrong choices.</i>
bold	<code>&lt;b&gt;You have the colors. And you have the courage.&lt;/b&gt;</code>	<b>You have the colors. And you have the courage.</b>
center	<code>&lt;center&gt;Call me The Giver.&lt;/center&gt;</code>	Call me The Giver.
hyperlink	<code>&lt;a href="http://loislowry.typepad.com/lowry_updates"&gt;Lois Lowry's blog&lt;/a&gt;</code>	<u><a href="http://loislowry.typepad.com/lowry_updates">Lois Lowry's blog</a></u>
Start a new paragraph (does not require a closing tag)	<code>&lt;p&gt;I thought there was only us.&lt;/p&gt;</code>	I thought there was only us.
	<code>I thought there was only now.</code>	I thought there was only now.

Insert picture (change filename and width/height as desired)	<pre>&lt;img src="http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~jratzan/apple.jpg" width="100" height="100"&gt;</pre>	
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Some sources for more **HTML** tags:

Basic HTML - Getting Started with HTML by Dave Raggett: <http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/Guide/Overview.html>

More advanced HTML - More Advanced Features by Dave Raggett: <http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/Guide/Advanced.html>

Innumerable HTML tutorials can be found via Google

Use "View Source" option under "View" menu of browser to see others' code - increasingly obscure with fancier websites, though a little more visually friendly.

On Mac **BEdit** is very popular, but it's not free:

<http://www.barebones.com/products/bedit>

Two free Mac alternates:

TextWrangler: <http://www.barebones.com/products/textwrangler/textwranglerext.shtml>

jEdit: <http://www.jedit.org>

Two free Windows programs:

Notepad++: <http://notepad-plus.sourceforge.net/uk/site.htm>

Notepad2: <http://www.flos-freeware.ch/notepad2.html>

### Part 3: WYSIWYG Editors and Finding Templates

There are a number of WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editors that enable one to work with visual tools rather than code. On a basic level, they are not unlike using word processing programs like MS Word. They make it easier to do more advanced layouts, though they can still be challenging to master.

The most popular commercial (but expensive) one is Dreamweaver (formerly by Macromedia, now owned by Adobe):  
<http://www.adobe.com/products/dreamweaver>

A free open source alternative is NVU, which was developed as a standalone version of Mozilla Composer, much as Firefox was begun as a standalone version of the browser component of the Mozilla suite (itself descended from the Netscape suite):  
<http://www.nvu.com>

The old Mozilla suite is no longer actively developed, but the SeaMonkey project has taken its place and still contains Composer:  
<http://www.mozilla.org/projects/seamonkey>

WYSIWYG editors are powerful tools for scratch building sites, but can also be useful when working with templates. These provide a fast and convenient means to create a contemporary looking site. There are a number of sites which distribute designs with open licenses (e.g., Creative Commons); it is important however, to read exact license terms—typically an open license might allow for non-commercial use with attribution to the original designer, perhaps at the bottom of the page or sometimes just in the source code, but this can vary. It is *very important* to be conscious of copyright issues...and this is particularly true in the creation of a professional academic page.

Some good starting places:

<http://opendesigns.org>

<http://www.oswd.org>

<http://www.openwebdesign.org>

A template is usually bundled in a zip file which contains the html page(s) as well as any associated css files and images. Once unzipped, these can be edited by hand or with a WYSIWYG editor.

Images, too, are a standard part of “dressing up” a web page. Creating your own digital images is by far the simplest method of avoiding copyright issues. Additionally, there are a number of good sources of open licensed/public domain images on the Internet. Two places to begin:

Creative Commons search:

<http://search.creativecommons.org>

(Using this to search on Flickr for tag [old books] turns up some really nice results)

Wikipedia page on public domain images:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public\\_domain\\_images](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_domain_images)

#### **Part 4: Basic web graphics**

*Background images* can add some pizzazz and personalization to your page. They should be subtle so as not to distract from your page content. They repeat, so work best when they are either teeny tiny (to make a pattern), or make them wider and longer than you’d expect the page to ever be. These can be saved as jpegs or gifs.

The code for a background image is: `<body background="filename">` at the top of your page.

*Headers and buttons* are a nice way to incorporate some nicer fonts and graphic elements into your page layout and navigation. They generally make up the top bar and sometimes side bars that you see on websites, including the navigation menu. Buttons can also be used throughout the text for “special” links or to make things a bit more interactive. Usually they look best when saved as gifs.

Sources for graphics and tutorials:

<http://www.elated.com/articles/cat/graphics>

<http://www.mccannas.com/pshop/menu.htm>

<http://www.photoshop101.com/tutorials/web-graphics>

**Part 5: Discussion**

What to include as the actual content--CV, publications, research interests, classes taught, etc.

Pros/Cons of including the full text of one's publications

Pros/Cons associated with even just having a page out there

Managing one's online identity

Blogging--pros/cons of academic blogs, use of blogs as teaching tool or alternative web presence