

Designing Mobile Websites (For Phones, Handhelds, PDA's & Blackberry's)

This 2 day class will give you the practical knowledge to effectively plan, create and deliver websites for Mobile devices, such as phones, PDA's, Blackberry's, etc. We will combine the power of XHTML and CSS to create a simple, accessible mobile site. Participants are encouraged to bring their own content for the lab project.

Software used: Dreamweaver CS3, Adobe Device Central (bundled with Dreamweaver CS3), WinWAP Smartphone Browser Emulator (Free), Opera Mini Simulator (Free)

No special Hardware or mobile devices are needed.

Prerequisites: Must feel very comfortable quickly saving and retrieving files, understand a computers file and folder structure, know basic Word formatting and use computers on a consistent basis. No Dreamweaver knowledge or web design is necessary.

Note: The majority of this class is non-technical, but some technical concepts and skills will be delivered.

We will be using Dreamweaver CS3 to expedite the XHTML design, but if you are using another web design program. Earlier version of Dreamweaver or are hand coding, this class would still be appropriate.

Maximum 15 ppl.

Lesson 1- Overview

Understanding the differences between Mobile and traditional websites

Screen resolutions and pixel dimensions

Text sizing

Principals of Mobile Web Design

Pop ups, Frames

Overview of the big picture

Lesson 2- Setting up a Mobile Web Site

The Dreamweaver Environment

Defining a Web Site

Viewing and Managing XHTML Code and CSS stylesheets

Previewing in Adobe Device Central, WinWAP and Opera Mini

Lesson 3- Planning a Mobile Web Site

Information Architecture

Menu decisions

Icons vs Text

Category, Alphabetical, Time Sequence, Shallow Hierarchy, Deep Hierarchy

Lesson 4- Building a Web Site from Scratch

The Site Panel

Creating a Basic Web Page

Fluid Design overview

Page Properties

Links within a Site

External Links

Templates

Lesson 5- Screen sizes

Understanding Fluid Design

Block elements

P, Table,

Re-flow,

Em & %

Antialiasing

Smoothing, clearType

Color and contrast

Lesson 6- Adding Content to Web Pages

List Formats

Images

Understanding images optimization in Adobe Photoshop

Lesson 7- Enhancing Navigation in a Site
The History panel

Lesson 11- CSS Style Sheets
Handheld style sheets
Defining Style Sheets
Applying Style Sheets to Multiple Pages
Building and Editing Custom Styles
img.as-tex CSS
making Opera use your CSS
Validating your site for accessibility

Lesson 8- Managing and Uploading a Web Site
Setting up FTP Information
The Site Map
Managing

Lab Project

Creating a 4 page website utilizing external and internal Links,
Different Fonts, Page Titles, Emails and Images

Lesson 9- Search Engine Optimization Condensed version
Defining Description, Keywords, Title Tags, H1, etc
Editing More Meta Tags
Understanding search engine spiders

Lab Project

Creating a 10 page mobile website utilizing CSS, Templates, emails
and uploading to the Internet.