Site Management

Please don't forget to review your handouts and make sure you are including all required information, pages, etc... for your assignments.

This handout was written for general site management using a combination of Dreamweaver and a filetransfer protocol program such as FETCH. This procedure can work for a main site (entire public_html folder), or for sub-sites (that exist in sub-folders) that are contained with the main web folder. Just be SURE you are matching the file paths precisely between your local and public files.

To get started:

- Select the location for your site as the local site in your web folder or a sub-folder on your local storage device. All files for this site should be located in the selected folder for proper site functionality.
 - For a sub-folder, create a blank folder with the same name (& capitalization) in your public_html folder using FETCH. (You may have already completed this step)
- In Dreamweaver →
 - Site \rightarrow New Site (or Site \rightarrow Manage Sites if you need to make changes after set-up)
 - (Site Tab) Site Name: Name of your Site
 - (Site Tab) Local Site Folder: Navigate to your site in your local web folder. Make sure you do this every time!
 - Click Save

You will have to set up or "manage" your site each time you work on it in the lab. If you were on a single, unshared computer – you would not have to repeat this step every time. If you do not manage your site, it is possible that your links and images will not work when previewing your page. Another advantage to managing your site with Dreamweaver is that Dreamweaver will update pages in your site to reflect any changes, such as renaming or moving a file. Managing with Dreamweaver helps you maintain consistency between local and remote files and prevents many problems from occurring.

We will be working with the local site only at this point. This is the most common way to work on sites since all editing and testing can be done prior to uploading and no one can "find" your unfinished site before you are ready. You should have all pages created with content and images prior to taking your site live.

All files (html, images, pdfs, SpryAssets, etc...) must be located in the chosen site folder. Eventually you will be placing this entire folder online using Dreamweaver. You might find it helpful to have a separate image folder nestled in your chosen site folder.

Tips for Designing Multi-Page Sites:

Use Page Properties to set your CSS attributes. Edit your CSS as necessary to fine-tune your selections.

You might find it best to create a basic page with the fonts, colors, keywords, etc... set and then add your navigation bar (style up to you). Don't add any content outside of navigation. Save this page, then

use "Save As" to create additional pages – this can give a consistent feel to your site without starting each page from scratch each time.

For the title bars, consider a structure such as "Site Name | Home", "Site Name | Bio", etc...

Selecting background and font colors from important photographs used prominently on your pages can add a professional feel to your design.

Linking:

Browse for local links in the Property Inspector box to insure the correct path.

You can also use the Point to File icon (9) to select local files. Just click on the icon and drag the arrow toward the file you wish to link to. Targets, etc... can then be set using the Property Inspector dialog box.

External links should be referenced with the full URL (http:// . . .)

When Ready to Upload Site:

(if managing entire site, just use public_html as the root directory. 'siteName' would be the name of any individual sub-folder if you were planning on just working on a specific section of the site. Be Careful!)

- In Dreamweaver, Site \rightarrow New Site, or Site \rightarrow Manage Site if you have already set up your site
 - Choose the Servers tab.
 - Click the "+" in the bottom left
 - Match the screen shot below. Note that the web URL should start with http://

	Basic Advanced	
Server Name:	ra.msstate.edu	
Connect using:	FTP 🗸	
FTP Address:	ra.msstate.edu	Port: 21
Username:	netID	
Password:	•••••• 🗹 S	ave
[Test	
Root Directory:	public_html/siteName	
Web URL:	//www2.msstate.edu/~netID/siteName	
More Options		
Help	Cancel	Save

- Click Save when finished. It's a good idea to TEST your connection.
- Use the "PUT" command from the Files Panel in Dreamweaver to select files to upload.