

## **WELCOME PAGE and SITE ORGANIZATION**

**INITIAL LIVE DEADLINE: January 14, 4:50 pm**

**(place page LIVE via FETCH and email a link to [wroussin@comm.msstate.edu](mailto:wroussin@comm.msstate.edu))**

Even though it is possible to design for the web without an understanding of basic HTML coding, it is not advisable. Understanding basic coding can allow you to make simple and easy changes to your website without having to open an editing program (such as Dreamweaver) and to 'over-ride' problematic codes in WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) programs. Another great advantage of coding by hand is that it is virtually free – any simple text editor can be used to write the code for a website. Programs such as FETCH or TRANSMIT are File-Transfer-Protocol (ftp) programs that are used to upload your page(s). Many FTP programs are either freeware or shareware and are readily available. Make sure you are using Plain Text if you have an option between it and HTML.

We will be using TextWrangler as our Text Editor for this class. It's free –you can download it here: <http://www.textwrangler.com/products/textwrangler/>

Are you a PC User? Try NotePad Lite (free).

Click here: [http://download.cnet.com/NoteTab-Light/3000-2352\\_4-10008280.html?tag=mncol](http://download.cnet.com/NoteTab-Light/3000-2352_4-10008280.html?tag=mncol) to download.

We will use an ftp program (Fetch) to upload this file to your RA account. Login information is your banner user name & password. The directory is "public\_html".

## **WELCOME PAGE & SITE SET-UP**

You will need to create a new index.html page that will have several links. Some of our links will be hidden until we complete projects but we will set them up now. Do not capitalize unless indicated. The web distinguishes between "dog" and "Dog" and sees them as separate entities.

See your File Management handout:

<http://wkr1.comm.msstate.edu/3713/handouts/FileManagement.pdf>

for instructions on setting up your local and remote directories.

You can see my sample welcome page here: <http://wkr1.comm.msstate.edu/3713/welcome.html>

Your welcome page should have an email link and a disclaimer about the class. Follow the set-up of my sample page for now.

Later in the semester you will make changes to this 'welcome page' to showcase your skills as they improve. There will be a separate handout discussing options to 'spice up' your page.

Follow the sample HTML coding seen in my source code. To view the source code use View→ View Source( ⌘⌘U) in Safari and View→ Page Source (⌘U) in Firefox.

Comment tags indicate areas where you need to substitute your own information or choices. The Welcome Page should be saved as "index.html" and placed in your "public-html" folder.

*NOTE: The first page of EACH site (or folder on the web) will be "index.html"*

*NOTE: When re-opening an ".html" document in some text editors you will see the result – NOT the code. If this happens to you the best work-around is to copy and paste the code from the "view source code" option of the live view of your file (in the web browser) and re-create the document.*

**Helpful Links:**

<http://www.w3schools.com/>

<http://www.quackit.com/>