**Web Design Best Practices Checklist**

**Background Information**

\*\*Comments in red font were written by Sandeep after receiving the file from my website reviewer\*\*

* URL: http://rvccmccs01.raritanval.edu/~sdha5328/cisy225/aboutme4/
* Target Audience: Fellow science students, professors, and prospective employers
* Purpose: Explain who I am, what I like to do, and give a brief introduction to my research experiences

**Page Layout**

1. ❏    Appealing to target audience… Yes
2. ❏    Consistent site header/logo… Yes
3. ❏    Consistent navigation area… Yes
4. ❏    Informative page title that includes the company/organization/site name…Yes
5. ❏    Page footer area includes copyright, last update, contact e-mail address… Needs contact and last update

\*\*Added last update, but left off contact section because that will be included as a separate page using the form elements we learned for About Me 5. However, I did link my LinkedIn page to my name in the footer.

1. ❏    Good use of basic design principles: repetition, contrast, proximity, and alignment…Yes

\*\*Increased size of h2 and h3 headings to increase visibility and readability. Changed the color palette slightly by using Adobe Color Wheel to take colors from the banner picture I used in the header, which increased the cohesiveness of the website’s design.

1. ❏    Displays without horizontal scrolling at 1024×768 and higher resolutions…Yes
2. ❏    Balance of text/graphics/white space on page…Yes
3. ❏    Good contrast between text and background…Yes
4. ❏    Header and nav occupy less than ¼ to ⅓ of the browser at 1024×768 resolution…Yes
5. ❏    Home page has compelling, interesting information above the fold at 1024×768…Yes
6. ❏    Home page downloads within ten seconds on dial-up connection…Yes
7. ❏    Viewport meta tag is used to enhance display on smartphones //
8. ❏    Media queries configure responsive page layout for smartphone and // tablet display

**Browser Compatibility**

1. ❏   Displays on popular/current versions of Internet Explorer…Yes
2. ❏   Displays on popular/current versions of Microsoft Edge…Yes
3. ❏   Displays on current versions of Firefox…Yes
4. ❏   Displays on current versions of Google Chrome…Yes
5. ❏   Displays on current versions of Opera…?
6. ❏   Displays on current versions of Safari (both Mac and Windows)…?
7. ❏   Displays on popular mobile devices (including tablets and smartphones)…?

**Navigation**

1. ❏   Main navigation links are clearly and consistently labeled…Yes
2. ❏   Navigation is easy to use for target audience…Yes
3. ❏   If main navigation uses images, clear text links are in the footer section of the page //
4. ❏   If main navigation uses Flash, clear text links are in the footer section of the page //
5. ❏   Navigation is structured in an unordered list…Yes
6. ❏   Navigation aids, such as site map, skip navigation link, or breadcrumbs are used… No

\*\*Did not really discuss the implementation of site map, skip navigation link, or breadcrumbs for use in About Me project.

1. ❏   All navigation hyperlinks “work” — are not broken…Yes

**Color and Graphics**

1. ❏   Color scheme is limited to a maximum of three or four colors plus neutrals…Yes
2. ❏   Color is used consistently…Yes
3. ❏   Text color has [sufficient contrast](http://snook.ca/technical/colour_contrast/colour.html) with background color…Yes
4. ❏   Color is not used alone to convey meaning…Yes
5. ❏   Use of color and graphics enhances rather than distracts from the site…Yes
6. ❏   Graphics are optimized and do not significantly slow download…Yes
7. ❏   Each graphic used serves a clear purpose…Yes
8. ❏   Image tags use the alt attribute to configure an alternate text description…Yes
9. ❏   Animated images do not distract from the site and do not endlessly repeat…N/A

**Multimedia**

1. ❏   Each audio/video/Flash file used serves a clear purpose… N/A
2. ❏   The audio/video/Flash files used enhance rather than distract from the site… N/A
3. ❏   Captions are provided for each audio or video file used…N/A
4. ❏   Download times for audio or video files are indicated…N/A
5. ❏   Links to downloads for media plug-ins are provided…N/A

**Content Presentation**

1. ❏   Common fonts such as Arial or Times New Roman are used…Yes
2. ❏   No more than one web font is used…Yes

\*\*h2, nav, & footer (h3 was added to this) use a different web font in order to provide sufficient contrast between structural elements and content-driven text (p, figcaption)

1. ❏   Techniques of writing for the Web are used: headings, bullet points, brief paragraphs... Large blocks of text could be broken up more.

\*\*Broke up large blocks of text regarding my research experiences in the About Me section using an unordered list nested in an ordered list. Also broke up the content into subheadings of Objectives, Background, and Results. I trimmed some fluff text in the Hobbies section, broke up the paragraph on Watching Football, and added a visual image to give some relief to the viewer. Used <sup> tag to superscript R2.

1. ❏   Fonts, font sizes, and font colors are consistently used…Yes
2. ❏   Content provides meaningful, useful information…Yes
3. ❏   Content is organized in a consistent manner…Yes
4. ❏   Information is easy to find (minimal clicks)…Yes
5. ❏   Timeliness: The date of the last revision and/or copyright date is accurate N/A

\*\*Added date of last revision to the footer

1. ❏   Content does not include outdated material…Yes
2. ❏   Content is free of typographical and grammatical errors…Yes

\*\*Fixed a few typos and grammar mistakes I caught in my large text blocks.

1. ❏   Content provides links to other useful sites…N/A
2. ❏   Avoids the use of “Click here” when writing text for hyperlinks…N/A
3. ❏   Hyperlinks use a consistent set of colors to indicate visited/nonvisited status
4. ❏   If graphics are used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided…Yes
5. ❏   If media is used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided…N/A

**Functionality**

1. ❏   All internal hyperlinks work…Yes
2. ❏   All external hyperlinks work…Yes
3. ❏   All forms function as expected…Yes
4. ❏   No JavaScript errors are generated…N/A

**Accessibility**

1. ❏   If main navigation uses images, text links are in the footer section of the page…NA
2. ❏   If main navigation uses Flash, text links are in the footer section of the page…N/A
3. ❏   Navigation is structured in an unordered list…Yes
4. ❏   Navigation aids, such as site map, skip navigation link, or breadcrumbs are used… Needs implementation
5. ❏   Color is not used alone to convey meaning…Yes
6. ❏   Text color has [sufficient contrast](http://snook.ca/technical/colour_contrast/colour.html) with background color…Yes
7. ❏   Image elements use the alt attribute to configure an alternate text description…Yes
8. ❏   If graphics are used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided…Yes
9. ❏   If media is used to convey meaning, the alternate text equivalent is provided…Yes
10. ❏   Captions are provided for each audio or video file used…N/A
11. ❏   Use attributes designed to improve accessibility such as title when appropriate…Yes
12. ❏   Use the id and headers attributes to improve the accessibility of table data…Yes
13. ❏   Configure frames with frame titles and place meaningful content in the noframes area…N/A
14. ❏   The html element’s lang attribute indicates the spoken language of the page…N/A
15. ❏   The role attribute indicates [ARIA landmark roles](http://blog.paciellogroup.com/2013/02/using-wai-aria-landmarks-2013/)…N/A

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