CS200 Assignment 1 – Setup, Tables and Word Processing
Due Tuesday January 9th 2017, 9:00 am

Readings and Resources

On Learn: Course Information / Course Outline
CS200 Course Resources / Course Environment
CS200 Course Resources / iMac Quickstart for Experienced Windows Users

Texts: The Mac is Not a Typewriter, by Robin Williams
The Non-Designers Design Book 4th Ed., by Robin Williams, especially Chapter 11, “The Categories of Type”

Other Resources: MS Word’s online documentation. Select Word Help from the Help menu and search for “Tables”.

Documents you prepare for assignments in this course should follow the guidelines outlined by Williams’ books. The material from these books will appear on examinations.

Before Attending Lab

Go to https://www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/password/auth to change your student.cs password. You’ll need to access this site from your laptop, phone, or other device to change your password, because you won’t be able to log into the lab machines without changing your password. You can use the password generator Excel file on Learn / Week 1 to do so, or just create your own. If you have trouble with any of this, the ISAs will help you in lab.

It will be helpful to obtain a copy of the required texts (see above) before coming to lab. The Non-Designer’s Design Book is required to answer question 4, and The Mac is not a Typewriter is required to help you create visually effective documents, which will you will need to do for each assignment.

Files

WP_Starter.docx: This document will be used for question 2 of this assignment. You will demonstrate your understanding of the basic word processing concepts from class.

Assignment Objectives

- To become familiar with the Mac labs and the CS200 course environment (course web site, Learn, Discussion Board, Twitter).
- To get settled into MS Word.
- To begin learning application features by using on-line help and exploring the interface and menus of an application.
- To start thinking about the importance of how documents look and how to make your printed documents visually effective.

1 This file will create a randomized password for you.
Your Tasks

1. (10%) The following is a list of tasks you will need to do during the first lab of the term. Information about how to accomplish each can be found in CS200 Course Resources > Course Environment on Learn.
   a) Before coming to lab, go to https://www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/password/auth to create your student.cs password. See page 1 of this assignment for more details.
   b) Log into the lab computer with your username and the password you created.
   c) Use a web browser (ex. Firefox, Safari, Chrome) to access the course home page at www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/~cs200
   d) Log into Learn, learn.uwaterloo.ca. Go to CS200 and explore the materials and resources that are there.
      • Go to the Discussion Board, Welcome to CS200, and post a brief hello to your classmates. This is a good forum for communicating with your classmates and course staff.
      • Fill in the Experience Survey quiz, under the Assessments tab.
      • Read the Academic Integrity file under Course Information. Submit the file to the Assignment 1 Academic Integrity Dropbox on Learn. This acknowledges that you accept the policy.
   e) Email Barbara a brief introduction of yourself, as discussed in lecture, to bmzister@uwaterloo.ca. Your subject line should be CS200 yHC Introduction.

2) (5%) Open the document WP_Starter.docx. You will find a title, a couple of paragraphs, a list of items and a set of data. Format the document with the concepts discussed in class (ruler settings, margins, and tabs) to look like Appendix 1 in this assignment (see page 4). Do not use tables to format this text. Make sure to also follow all the rules set out in The Mac is not a Typewriter. Save this as yHC_a1q2.docx.
3) (70%) The following questions are about the use of tables in Microsoft Word. Answer each question in paragraph form, as if each answer is part of a handbook on tables for someone who has limited computer and word processing knowledge. Be as clear as possible. You want your reader to be excited about trying and using tables. Your document should be long enough to be clear and understandable, but short enough that it will keep your reader’s attention.

At least 4 of your answers must include physical examples, meaning either by inserting a table that demonstrates what you’re explaining, or by inserting screenshots\(^3\) that illustrate your point and which would help the reader understand the task you’re describing. Make sure that these physical examples contribute to your explanation; in some cases a screenshot might be more beneficial.

a) What is a table? Include in your answer a short description of at least 3 parts that make up a table, and examples of the types of data that can be stored in a table.

b) Provide two examples of when it is useful to use a table in a word processor, and explain why.

c) How do you create tables in MS Word? Explain at least 2 different ways to do this.

d) Once you’ve created a table, how do you add and delete rows and columns?

e) How do you merge existing cells together? How do you split a cell into multiple cells?

f) Describe three different ways you can change the appearance of your table (ex. shading, borders, etc.), and explain how to do this.

g) How do you sort data in a table?

h) Describe another task (that you have not explained yet) that a user might want to do with tables in MS Word, and explain how to do it.

Name this document yHC_a1q3.docx.

Marking

75% of this question will be marked for substance and clarity of the topic.

25% of this question will be marked on overall visual appearance and the proper use of MS Word (as discussed in The Mac is Not a Typewriter). For example, you will lose points if the layout of your document is difficult to read or if you use spaces and the return key to format a paragraph instead of using proper paragraph attributes.

\(^3\) You can take a screenshot of the entire screen by pressing “Cmd+Shift+3”, or press “Cmd+Shift+4” to select the area of the screen you want to capture.
4) (15%) Create a new word document to answer the following questions related to the following two paragraphs.

“Students of Socrates learn that wisdom is grounded not in knowledge per se, but in the knowledge first of all that you know nothing. They learn it a lot, in fact. For not withstanding the profound truth of the sentiment, the great man used the idea to get himself out of many a tight spot. […]

The recent bout of fakery in the financial sector is just the beginning of a depth of fraudulence that threatens to sink the whole sphere of our working lives. The root cause, I suspect, is that the value of craftsmanship has sunk steadily. But its fall has been masked by an equally steep rise in the value of salesmanship.”

Extract of the article The selling of the self, by Guy Dammann, appeared in the Guardian Weekly 03.04.09.

In any word processor, there are many different typefaces available to choose from. From reading Robin Williams’ The Non-Designer’s Design Book, you have seen that they can be divided into six categories: old style, modern, slab serif, sans serif, script and decorative.

a) The two paragraphs use two different typefaces. For each, identify the category in which the typeface belongs, giving at least two reasons for each paragraph in terms of its serifs, stress and thick/thin transition. You cannot receive full marks for this question without providing a justification.

b) Which paragraph typeface is more readable? Which is more legible?

c) Identify the category of the main typeface you used in your response to Question 3 (yHC_a1q3.doc). Do you find it to be particularly readable, particularly legible or both? Provide a short justification.

Save this document as yHC_a1q4.docx.

Submission Instructions

• Create a folder called yHC_Assign1
• Move each of the assignments files (yHC_a1q2, yHC_a1q3, yHC_a1q4) to this folder
• Compress this folder and name it yHC_Assign1.zip and submit it to the Assignment 1 DropBox on Learn.
• Don’t forget to submit the Academic Integrity document, complete the Experience Survey, post on the Discussion Board, and send Barbara an introductory email for Question 1.
Appendix

Student Union
University of Waterloo
Memorandum

Date: September 30, 1998
To: Dean Daly
From: Jane Smith, Student Union President

Re: University of Waterloo’s Sixtieth Anniversary

Here are a few ideas that council has been discussing since our last meeting. I hope that these ideas will prove helpful for your plans for the celebration of the anniversary.

1. Dean Wall: This will give the students a sense of our history. We think that it would be great to honour the Deans of the last forty years.

2. Graduate Gift: Never before have the graduating students presented the faculty with a gift. We believe this is an excellent way to celebrate.

3. Money: With so many students concerned about not having enough money for university, why not begin a new scholarship to honour sixty years of education at this university.

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