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Historical Teaching & Professional Material Archive

Archival Notice

This presentation is preserved **solely for historical and archival purposes**.

- The content reflects the **state of knowledge, tools, technologies, and industry practices** available at the time the lecture was originally delivered.
- Examples, recommendations, and technical references are **intentionally time-bound** and may no longer represent current best practices.
- This material is retained to document **teaching methodology, professional experience, and industry context** during the stated period.

Presentation Format Explanation

This archived version intentionally displays **both slide content and speaker notes** to preserve full instructional context.

- **Slide Presentation Area (~80%)**
Displays the original visual content used during the lecture.
- **Speaker Notes Area (~20%)**
Displays the instructor's verbal explanations, teaching intent, and contextual clarifications in a smaller font.

Speaker notes are included **for documentation, academic review, and historical reference**, and were not intended to be visible to the original live audience.

Intended Use of This Archive

This material is intended for:

- Academic and professional portfolio review
- Teaching and curriculum documentation
- Historical reference of IT education and industry practices
- Analysis of pedagogy and professional development over time

This material is **not intended** to serve as:

- Current technical guidance
- Up-to-date industry instruction
- A live presentation without revision or contextual update

Author's Statement

This archive represents the author's **professional and teaching experience** during the period indicated and is preserved to reflect its **original context and intent**.

Historical Course Material - A Step Ahead in Web Design | January 16, 2003, STI College Southwoods

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Lecture for 4th Year BSCS and BSIM students
January 16, 2003
STI College Southwoods

**Abegail Torrendon, BSCS Student
Research & Development TEAM**



Speaker's Notes

Initial slide for the
topic

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Ohayo! I'm Abby

- BSCS Student
- 2002 and 2003 National Champion: GIFs & TAGs Website Competition
- Dev (SA) at Research & Development TEAM of STI College Southwoods

STI College Southwoods

January 16, 2003



Speaker's Notes

Introducing myself to the audience

- Currently enrolled as BSCS Student in the same school
- Active with national competitions
- Currently a Dev (Student Assistant) at Research & Development TEAM

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Lecture Objectives

- Review core web development skills
- Introduce advanced design considerations
- Discuss professional tools
- Understand PH's internet limitations



Speaker's Notes

Explain goals:

- Set expectations and context for a senior-level lecture.
- Explain focus on practical, PH-based realities.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Web Development in 2003

- Majority of users still rely on dial-up
(Broadband will be available this year)
- Internet cafes/shops are primary access points
- Web development is becoming a viable career
- Philippine companies are starting to go online



Speaker's Notes

- Dial-up is the most common connection, there's talks about implementing Broadband within this year (expensive).
- Emphasize that Philippine internet infrastructure is still limited.
- Businesses going online
- Good design must work within real conditions, not ideal ones.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Web Design vs Web Programming

- Layout and presentation
- Usability and clarity
- User interaction flow
- Logic and functionality
- Server-side processing
- Database interaction



Speaker's Notes

Clarify distinction for graduating students, and they should already understand programming; this lecture focuses on how design affects system usability.

Web Design

- Layout
- Usability
- Flow

Web Programming

- Logic
- Server-side
- Databases

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Why Web Design Matters

- Users judge websites quickly
- Confusing layouts discourage use
- Good design improves:
 - Navigation
 - Understanding
 - Trust



Speaker's Notes

Explain business and user impact.

- First impressions matter
- Poor design discourages use
- Improves navigation & trust

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

HTML & CSS in Practice

For HTML

- HTML defines page structure
- Tables widely used for layout

For CSS

- `<div>` and CSS emerging but limited
- Controls fonts, colors, spacing
- Reduces excessive HTML formatting
- Browser behavior still inconsistent



Speaker's Notes

HTML defines structure.

Tables still dominant, explain that table-based layouts are still common and acceptable especially in the Philippines.

CSS layout emerging and useful but must be tested.

Warn students that CSS behaves differently across browsers. Testing is critical.

CSS still have some browser compatibility concerns.

- Fonts, colors, spacing
- Cleaner structure
- Inconsistent browser support

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

JavaScript in Design

- Form validation
- User feedback (alerts)
- Simple animations
- Improves usability



Speaker's Notes

JavaScript enhances user's website experience/interaction.

- Form validation
- Alerts
- Simple animations

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Server-Side Integration

Apache/Linux setups

- PHP + MySQL
- phpMyAdmin for database management

PWS or IIS/Windows setups

- ASP + MS Access



Speaker's Notes

Show how design meets backend.

- PHP + MySQL
- phpMyAdmin
- ASP + MS Access

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Any questions?



Speaker's Notes

Ask audience for any questions, after 1-2 questions (give freebies for those who asked questions) or if there's none, ask the following (and give some of the freebies as reward):

- HTML, CSS and JavaScript is useful for Web Design or Development?
- If PHP = Apache, then for ASP = ?

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Image Editing & Optimization Tools

- Adobe Photoshop
- Macromedia Fireworks

Key considerations:

- Optimize images: **BMP**, **GIF**, **JPG**, **PNG**
- Split large images when needed
- Avoid heavy graphics
- Always consider loading time



Speaker's Notes

- Photoshop
- Fireworks

Explain image formats, optimization, and just mention SVG (vector, limited use).

Explain that optimization is not optional in the Philippines.

Emphasize why BMP files are avoided and why JPG/GIF/PNG are preferred.

Explain image slicing: large images are divided so browsers load them faster and layouts remain intact.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Animation Tool

- Macromedia Flash

Uses:

- Animated intros
- Interactive navigation
- Simple games

Important limitation:

- Users must have Flash Player installed
- Not all users can view Flash content
- Loading time consideration



Speaker's Notes

- Macromedia Flash
- Animations & interaction
- Loading time consideration
- Requires Flash Player

Flash requires plugin; risk in cafes/shops.

Mention Flash is powerful but should be used carefully due to:

- Plug-in requirements
- Loading time

Stress that Flash is powerful but risky.

Many users in internet cafes/shops may not have updated plugins installed.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Web IDE

- Microsoft FrontPage
- Macromedia Dreamweaver

Features:

- WYSIWYG + code view
- HTML and CSS support
- FTP publishing



Speaker's Notes

- MS FrontPage for beginner
- Dreamweaver as pro IDE and more/better features

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Designing for Users

- Simple, familiar layouts
- Clear navigation
- Minimal learning curve
- Design for first-time internet users



Speaker's Notes

- Simple layouts
- Clear navigation
- Familiar patterns

Design for first-time users.

Stress usability over visual impressiveness.

Many Philippine users are first-time internet users.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Fonts & Colors

Common system fonts:

- **Arial**, **Times New Roman**, **Verdana**, **Tahoma** and **Courier New**

Color declaration:

- Hexadecimal codes (#000000): precise and consistent
 - Hex codes are preferred for consistency
- Color names (black, blue): limited and browser-dependent



Speaker's Notes

Colors:

- Hex codes vs names

Explain font safety and hex vs names.

Explain that hex colors ensure visual consistency across browsers, unlike named colors.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Tables vs CSS Layout

Tables

- More predictable
- Better cross-browser support

CSS

- Cleaner structure
- Limited browser consistency
- Practical choice depends on project needs



Speaker's Notes

Tables:

- Predictable
- Consistent

CSS:

- Cleaner
- Limited support

No absolute right choice in layout. Explain that there is no single correct answer: practicality matters more than ideology.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Internet Speed & File Size Considerations

- Majority of users use dial-up
- Large files load slowly
- File size affects:
 - Images
 - Audio
 - Video
 - Flash content
- Good design balances quality and performance

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January 16, 2003



Speaker's Notes

- Dial-up users
- Large files load slowly
- File size affects user's experience

Tie file size to speed.

Relate this to internet cafes/shops: users pay per hour, so slow websites cost them money.

Tie file size directly to user experience. Mention that slow websites are often abandoned.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Designing for PH Internet Conditions

- Slow loading frustrates users
- Internet cafes/shops users pay per hour
- Efficient design saves user time and cost
- Performance is part of usability



Speaker's Notes

- Slow sites frustrate users
- Internet cafe/shop costs
- Performance matters

Explain cafe/shop cost/time impact.

Relate this to internet cafes/shops: users pay per hour, so slow websites cost them money.

Tie file size directly to user experience. Mention that slow websites are often abandoned.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Browser Compatibility

- **Internet Explorer ****
- **Netscape Navigator ****
- Opera
- Mozilla
- AOL Browser

(* indicates commonly used browsers)



Speaker's Notes

IE dominance in PH. Explain that Internet Explorer dominates in computer labs, so testing on it is critical.

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Any questions?

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Speaker's Notes

Ask audience for any questions, after 1-2 questions (give freebies for those who asked questions) or if there's none, ask the following (and give some of the freebies as reward):

- What are the 5 recommended fonts to be used for web designing?
- What are the 2 IDEs that you can use for Web Designing?
- Which type of image you should stay away as much as possible for creating websites?

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Learning Through Examples

Flash-driven websites:

- 2Advanced Studios
- AddictingGames

Best User Experience (2002):

- Amazon
- Yahoo
- eBay



Speaker's Notes

Flash sites:

- 2Advanced Studios
2advanced.com
- AddictingGames
addictinggames.com

Best User Experience from last year:

- Amazon
- Yahoo
- eBay

Analyze, don't copy designs.

Encourage students to analyze, not copy.

Ask:

- Why does the site feel easy to use?
- How is navigation handled?
- What loads fast or slow?

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Practice thru Personal Portfolio Website

- Showcase design skills
- Apply usability principles
- Experiment with tools
- Prepare for employment

Ex: nocturnaldevgypsy.cjb.net



Speaker's Notes

Portfolio as learning ground.

- Showcase skills
- Practice design
- Prepare for work

Practice as the main learning method.

- Personal website as sandbox.

Show my personal website to audience to give more insight

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Closing Message

- Web design is not decoration
- It supports usability and functionality
- Good designers respect users and limitations
- Staying ahead requires awareness and practice



Speaker's Notes

End with practical advice.

End with:
"Good web designers think about users, technology, and limitations; not just appearance."

- Design supports usability
- Respect user limitations
- Practice to stay ahead

A Step Ahead in Web Design

Web Design Practices and Tools

Thanks for attending!

Any questions?

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January 16, 2003



Speaker's Notes

- Ask audience for any questions, after 1-2 questions (give freebies for those who asked questions)
- If there's none, can, we can end the presentation