COMP1054 – Web Design

PROJECT 3
CSS Zen Garden

DESCRIPTION

Adhering to the rules of Dave Shea's CSS Zen Garden challenge (http://csszengarden.com/), design your own unique take on the layout using purely CSS. This project can be done alone or in pairs if you wish.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Download** the XHTML for the CSS Zen Garden.
2. Construct an **external CSS file** and change the @import rule in the embedded style sheet of the Zen Garden CSS to point to it.
3. Using **only the CSS** and the ids and classes in the XHTML provided, layout your page design using positioning, floating or a combination of both (consult the layout chapter of your textbook for help with this).
4. Decide on appropriate **typographic treatment** for the design body text, links and headings (with due respect to readability and legibility – set base font styles on the body).
5. Select a **pleasing colour scheme** for the page and incorporate **background images for page elements** to add the necessary visuals to your layout (use image replacement where appropriate - http://www.mezzoblue.com/tests/revised-image-replacement/).
6. Above all, **you cannot change the XHTML** (with the exception of the @import rule that points to your CSS file). *This is a must*.
7. Be sure to consult any and all of the resources that you need at http://csszengarden.com/.

TAKE IT FURTHER

1. Perhaps try some **experimental CSS3 styles** like box-shadow or rounded corners (http://css3.info) .
2. Try different **positioning** techniques for various elements on the page.

3. Build your page such that it is resizable and adapts to various text sizes and/or browser window sizes.
4. Anything else you can think of…

SUBMITTING YOUR WORK

Please .zip all XHTML/ CSS and any image files into a single archive and post to the project on Blackboard.

Please also FTP all XHTML/CSS and any image files to webdesign3.georgianc.on.ca and submit the link to your form via the project as posted on Blackboard.

EVALUATION

Please refer to the chart (assessment rubric) below. You will be graded on *how well* you followed the *assignment instructions* from both a *technical* and a *creative* perspective as spelled out in the rubric. This project is weighted 25% of your total mark for this course.

Criteria	Mark
TECHNICAL EVALUATION	
The design is achieved without modification of the Zen Garden HTML and relies purely on CSS.	**/5**
CSS syntax is correct, with effective comments, formatting and organization.	**/5**
Font sizing is controlled effectively by setting an appropriate base font and sizing all other elements based on this value. A default line-height and font-family is also declared and overwritten where necessary.	**/5**
Layout for page elements is controlled effectively by CSS either with positioning, floating or a combination of both.	**/5**
CREATIVE EVALUATION	
The design colour scheme is well thought out and applied effectively to both the typography and background colours and/or images.	**/5**
The application of fonts is appropriate to the design. Headings are legible, consistent and attractive. Body text is readable (a good size, reasonable line-length and line-height) and set in a font that is easy on the eyes.	**/5**

Criteria	Mark
Effort to take this project beyond the basic requirements is evident through innovation with the CSS, incorporating some interesting and engaging feature(s).	**/10**
TOTAL	**/40**