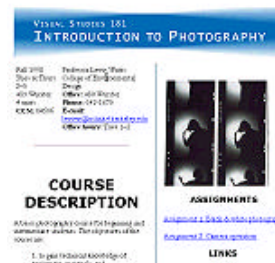


Images

We have been supporting an increasing number of image-intensive course web sites, particularly in the Art History and History departments. The web-design team helps process large collections of images by developing generic scripts for DeBabelizer, creating thumbnails and differently sized images while also assessing new image management software packages. The web-design team has posted guidelines for the creation and publishing of images to web sites.



Audio

The web design team experimented with using RealAudio files on a course web site to deliver audio recordings of each class lecture. We started with a 270-student lecture course on "Existentialism in Film and Literature." The professor had been recording his lectures on cassette tapes, which students could only listen to in the library. We built his lectures into his course web site so that all 270 students could listen to the lectures at their own convenience and in their own space. We found that the digitizing of audio files was very time-consuming, and are offering training and guidelines for professors and their GSIs to use.

Archiving & Version Control

Most large classes are taught every other semester. We are developing a flat-file database to archive sites so that they can be retrieved when the course is taught again. Additionally, we have established a standardized method of version control so that it is easy to determine from the file name if a site is the most current version. Additionally, we are collaborating with an on-campus museum group to archive images in their image database. Most importantly, our system will allow site designers to retrieve any information about a class, even if they didn't create the site themselves.

Security

The web design team is very conscious of the copyright issues being faced by universities. When a professor is using material whose provenance is questionable, we use a password-protection or IP address checking to constrain access to the course web site.



Template Development

As the demand for course web sites increases, the need to make the process scalable also increases. We are developing ways to work with alternate platforms for course web sites, e.g. WebCT and IBM's LearningSpace. Additionally, we are creating templates to simplify the process while still producing sites that respond to the individual needs of the departments, professors, and courses.

For More Information, Contact

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