

FS 102
Software Everywhere
Spring 2017

Assignment 5

Assigned: Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Due: Friday, April 7, 2017 at the start of class

Introduction

Now that you have created the version of your mobile-ready web site and it is “live” and you have begun to publish articles on your site, you are ready to begin releasing longer, feature-length articles. In this assignment, you will conduct and publish the results of an interview with a person who has experience with some facet of piracy. Consisting of the editing answers to at least ten questions related to software, music, and movie piracy, your article should draw on the assigned research papers when it asks the interviewee for a response to a research-based finding. Additionally, your article will have both a header image that is released through Flickr under a Creative Commons License and a license statement for the image. Along with having a captivating title, a TL;DR, and links to referenced articles and web sites, your second feature article will be promoted through a social media campaign. As you complete this assignment, please adhere to the following guidelines.

- **If possible, use the laboratory computers.** If it is absolutely necessary for you to work on a different machine, be sure to regularly transfer your programs to the Alden machines and check their correctness. Please remember that, as stated in the syllabus, students should try to complete assignments using the specialized workstations in the laboratory. If you cannot use a laboratory computer, then please carefully explain the setup of your laptop to a teaching assistant or the course instructor when you are asking questions.
- **Follow each step carefully.** Slowly read each sentence in every assignment sheet, making sure that you precisely follow each instruction. Take notes about each step that you attempt, recording your questions and ideas and the challenges that you faced. If you are stuck, then please tell a teaching assistant or instructor what step you recently completed.
- **Regularly ask and answer questions.** Please log into Slack at the start of a class or practical session and then join the appropriate channel. If you have a question about one of the steps in an assignment, then you can post it to the designated channel. Or, you can ask a student sitting next to you or talk with a teaching assistant or the course instructor.
- **Store your files in Git.** Starting with this laboratory assignment, you will be responsible for storing all of your files in a Git repository. Please verify that you have saved your source code in your Git repository by typing “`git status`” and ensuring everything is up to date.
- **Keep all of your files!** Don’t delete your programs, output files, and reports after you hand them in—you will need them again later when you study for the quizzes and examinations and work on the other laboratory, practical, and final project assignments.
- **Back up your files regularly.** Use a flash drive, Google Drive, or your favorite backup method to keep a copy of your files in reserve. In the event of a system failure, you are responsible for ensuring that you have access to a recent backup copy of all your files.

Publishing a “Portrait of Piracy”

This assignment invites you to complete a “portrait of piracy”. You are responsible for interviewing individual(s) who can share an interesting, informative, and balanced account about software, music, and/or movie piracy. For this assignment, you may want to interview people who are strongly in support of or opposed to piracy. Students are encouraged to pick interview candidates who may hold an opinion that is different from their own. Before conducting your interview, please carefully think about the people who will answer your questions and then prepare a detailed listing of the issues — and at least ten questions — that you want to discuss during your time together.

Once the interview(s) are finished and you have recorded all of the responses to your questions, you should prepare a written report of the interview(s). Going beyond a simple restatement of the questions and the answers, this article should include personal insights, additional facts and details, counterpoints to stated opinions, and other content that would yield a nuanced portrait of modern digital piracy. In particular, you should ensure that at least one of the questions you ask the interviewee is derived from a research-based finding from one of the assigned papers.

In summary, this assignment invites you to publish an article that exposes, using concrete and compelling examples derived from the assigned articles and the responses of the interviewee, the current state of digital piracy. After picking a partner with whom you will have an “editor-writer” relationship, please publish a high-quality and error-free article by following these steps.

1. As in the last writing assignment, you should again pick a partner. You will serve as the “editor” for your partner’s writing and your partner will be the “editor” for your writing. To start, please make sure that you and your partner know each other’s GitHub site and web site. An editor will provide feedback through the issue tracker by clicking the “Commits” tab in GitHub’s main interface, finding the commit number that contains the issue that you have identified in the writing, copying this number to the clipboard, and then using it when you report the issue. A writer will then consider the feedback, respond to it, and, when appropriate, resolve the issue that the editor raised. While it is acceptable to read and mark printed versions of the article, all discussion should be publicly visible in the issue tracker.
2. Using your terminal window, please go to the directory that contains the files for your web site. Now, find and change into the `_posts` directory where you will find the sample posts that come with the template that we are using for your web site. Using your previous file as an example, create a new file that you can use to store your writing for this assignment. That is, you should use the file browser (or, the “`mv`” command if you have experience with it) to rename a copy of the past file to one that would be appropriate for your new article. Please consider naming your file according to the title that you recently developed.
3. At this point, you should use the Atom text editor to change the contents of the file that you renamed in the previous step. The first thing that you should do is revise the “header” of this file that is at the very top of the editor’s window. For instance, you should create a new title and subtitle for your article. Next, delete the rest of the content from the prior article.
4. Your article must feature a header image that you download from Flickr. Please make sure that your image is licensed under a Creative Commons license and is suitable for use in an academic setting. To start your search for a header image, please go to the following web site: <https://www.flickr.com/creativecommons/>. Once you have found the image that you

want to include on your site, you can use the “Flickr attribution helper” that is available at <https://cogdog.github.io/flickr-cc-helper/> to get the correct reference for your image. Next, download your image and save it in the `img/` directory of your web site. Ultimately, the image should appear at the top of your article. You should also make sure that the full license statement and the credit for the image is at the bottom of the article. Please see the instructor or a teaching assistant if you have questions about the completion of this step.

5. After you finish modifying the header of this file you should use the “`git add`” and “`git commit`” and “`git push`” commands to transfer your content to the GitHub servers. You should also use the “`bundle exec jekyll serve`” command to preview a local version of your web page. Now, you are ready to start drafting a version of your article! As you are writing, please make sure that you write and revise in an incremental fashion, committing and pushing your sentences on a regular basis — generally, small modifications are better than large ones because they make it easier for you and your editor to track and comment on your developing article. With that said, please recall that once you run the “`git push`” command your content will be “live” on your web site. Students who want to explore a potentially better way to write that supports repeated pushing of content are encouraged to review the “GitHub Flow” handout and talk with the course instructor about using Git branches.
6. Since this assignment invites you to ask your chosen interviewee about at least one research-based finding, you should make sure that you have read the assigned papers for this module. In particular, you should concentrate on reading and understanding “Adolescent Self-Control and Music and Movie Piracy” by Malin and Fowers and “Is Music Downloading the New Prohibition? What Students Reveal through an Ethical Dilemma” by Altschuller and Benbunan-Fich. You are also encourage to read and cite other research articles that are related to the topic of software, music, and movie piracy. Please see the course instructor during office hours if you have questions about any of the findings in these research articles.
7. Instead of waiting to get feedback from your editor when you have finished the entire article, you are encouraged to write a draft of your content, publish it on your web site, and then request feedback from your editor. For instance, it might be a good idea to ask your editor to review the questions that you plan to ask the interviewee. You can also write about the research-based finding that you plan to articulate in your article. Once you have taken some of these steps, you can use the GitHub issue tracker to have a conversation with your editor about the best way to improve your article. You and your editor should use the issue tracker to have a thorough discussion about the strengths and weaknesses of your writing. Please note that your critique is not limited to the words in the article itself! You should also provide feedback about the structure of the article, the header image and TL;DR, the citation to the header image, and other aspect’s of the article’s content and layout.
8. Even though we will work on this assignment during at least two class sessions, you should budget enough time to outline, draft, discuss, and frequently revise this writing assignment. Remember, your focus should be on publishing an article that is concise, accessible, and error-free. Also, the main text of this writing assignment should be accompanied by a “TL;DR” or a “Too Long; Didn’t Read” that summarizes the key points about the writing. Please see the instructor if you confront difficulties when using GitHub or if you have additional questions.

Summary of the Required Deliverables

This writing assignment invites you to complete the following deliverables. After completing the assignment, please make sure that you submit a printed version of these items to the instructor.

1. A feature-length interview that furnishes an evidence-based portrait of modern digital piracy.
2. A header image from Flickr that is released under a Creative Commons licensing agreement.
3. Evidence in the GitHub issue tracker for the frequent discussion and revision of your article.
4. Documentation of a social media campaign that convinces your friends to read your article.
5. Reviews, through multiple GitHub issues and a full-featured discussion, of your peers' writing.

In adherence to the Honor Code, students should complete the main writing of this assignment on an individual basis. While you can and should incorporate feedback from your editor, any deliverables that are nearly identical to the work of others will be taken as evidence of violating Allegheny College's Honor Code. Please see the course instructor with questions about this policy.