

Savannah Holloway

STEM Coalition Reflection:

Building a Team and a Website

Reflection:

Develop a reflection on your capstone client project. Include a description of the project and a discussion of your areas of responsibility and successes.

Our main goal for our ITEC 4610 Capstone Project was to develop a new website and logo design for The Arkansas STEM Coalition for free within a period of roughly two months. The Arkansas STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Coalition is a nonprofit that promotes STEM teaching and learning through policies and programs conducive to a successful STEM education and workforce.

Team: Kennedy Fields, Oscar Gomez, Savannah Holloway, and Christain Sainz

How did the team organize itself?

- Our team was split into three sections: Project Manager, Designers, and Developer. Kennedy was the project manager, Christian and Oscar were on design, and I was the main developer. The way we determined our roles was by discussing our individual strengths and weaknesses while meeting for the first time as a team. Kennedy wasn't very confident with coding; she did, however, feel comfortable filling out the project management paperwork and setting up meetings with the client. Oscar and Christian both

said they were decent with coding, but that it wasn't their main strength. They did have experience with the Adobe suite and logo design, so they choose to take on that aspect of the project. I felt relatively confident with coding in HTML and CSS and I knew some Javascript; I had also worked with WordPress and the Gutenberg editor previously for my internship, so we all agreed I was best suited in the role of developer.

What was your individual role on the team?

- As mentioned earlier, I was chosen to be the lead developer on the team. I was in charge of getting the website up and running on WordPress. This consisted of moving over content, researching documentation, learning and utilizing client plugins along with any new plugins, coding personal CSS style changes, and fixing glitches in the theme code. Due to the large amount of website content, the whole group had to aid in moving over pages. This required me to teach the rest of the group how to work in WordPress with the block editor and delegate content assignments. I also aided them with any issues they encountered on their assigned pages and doubled checked their work after they were finished.

Describe a difficult moment during the project and how you dealt with the situation?

- I think a really hard moment for the whole team was finding out we could not import the content due to a possible virus on the original website. Moving the content over manually added another step in our already tight schedule, but it was a necessary step if we didn't want to risk the integrity of the new website.

- I handled this situation by developing a content migration plan. Firstly, I developed a skeleton outline for the website. This meant I populated the new website with all of the necessary pages so that we would have an idea of the layout before moving over the individual page content. Secondly, I took an afternoon to have a tutorial session with the rest of the team on using WordPress. Throughout this session, I built one of the Program pages and discussed the different elements of the Gutenberg editor. This gave them an opportunity to learn from example and ask any questions before getting hands-on themselves. Lastly, I assigned different pages for each person to work on. I gave them some of the pages that only consisted of content (words, imagery, and columns), while I took care of the pages that required a knowledge of plugins or more advanced Gutenberg blocks (like the page grid element).

What did you learn from the experience of working in teams?

- Working in teams always reminds me that I am not the best-suited person for every role. There are people who have skills that I am not as versed in. For example, I do not have experience with Photoshop or Adobe Illustrator nor have I taken a graphic design course. I was therefore not the best person to redesign the STEM Coalition logo. Christian and Oscar did a better job with that task.

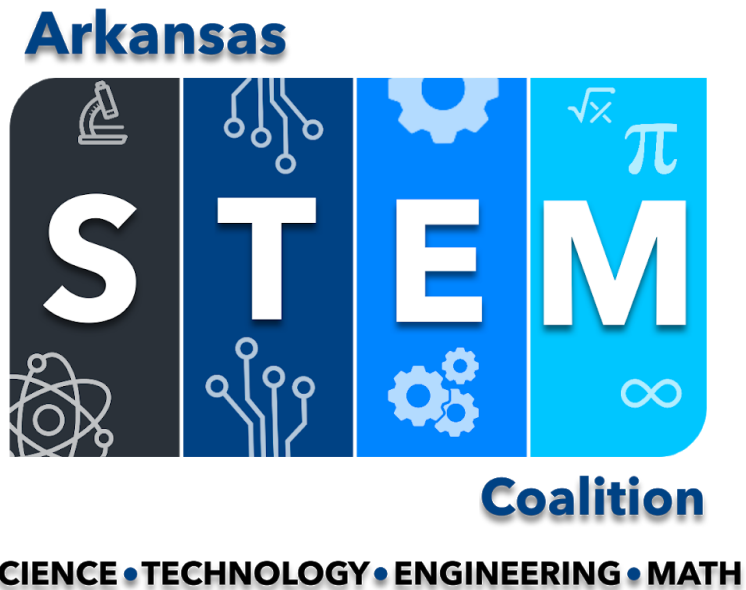
What would you do differently if you had to do it all over again?

- I would have used the Advanced Columns block from the beginning rather than the regular Columns block, it really does make a difference! I am just kidding (sort of); on a more serious note, I can't think of anything I would have done differently overall. I

learned so much from this experience - both from my mistakes and my successes. I can honestly say that I am proud of myself, proud of my team, and proud of the work we completed together.

Supporting Project Materials:

- [Presentation Video](#)
- [Presentation Slideshow](#)
- [New Website](#)
- [Old Website](#)
- [Content Break-up Document](#)
- Logo:



- Color Scheme:

