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EDAD 690 Web Authoring
Peer Review of Erica Papp's website

Through the design process of Erica Papp's website we have looked closely at her design and the usability of her site. The use of color in this website is very effective as is the repetition of text. The clear lay out of the site makes it easy to navigate and the links that are set up are working.

Since each page has a unique color scheme, text and images match, there is a logical division between different concepts. While the colors differ, the consistency of style lets the viewer see the repetition from page to page. This is a definite strength of this website. In addition the color selected for the active and visited hyperlinks are appropriate and go well with the color scheme of all the pages.

When the viewer is on a particular page the text link for that pages changes to alert the viewer as to what page they are currently on. This is an excellent feature that enhances navigation. On this page the alternate font, when the page is being viewed, is a little chunky. It may be enough to make the text a different color or possibly a new color and lighter in intensity. The change in font is a little much since it is not a font that is being used in other places in the website.

The index page has text links to the individual pages in the website but the description of these pages do not have logical proximity. While it is nice to define what the pages offer the viewer, it may be more confusing to have on this index page than if it were excluded. This problem of proximity could be solved if they were made to change color when the text link was moused over or if they were not seen until the text link was moused over. It could also be possible to solve this problem by writing complete

sentences for descriptions that include the name of the page with that information on it. These could then also be links to those pages. While this option would be a little redundant, having links in two places, it would be the easiest way to solve the problem.

This website is still in the development phase and there are some links that are not complete. In addition, on the "Education" page the final o in Ohio did not appear on my screen. One other area to check as this page is revised is on the credits page. On this page there are a number of unnecessary line breaks. It may not appear this way on all screens but I would be helpful to check this out.

The small font at the bottom of the Index and Education pages that states when the site was updated is nice but the size is not consistent on the About Me, Credits, and YEPE pages.

As this website develops it appears more and more professional. The look is very clean and it is easy to understand. It is very linear but the justification of the text works to make the experience more interesting. I look forward to seeing the final product.

Update

During the quarter Erica has updated some of the information in her site and added more pages. While it is obvious that she is still working on her website, the changes she has made make it easier to navigate her site.

Erica has added information to links that were previously dead which makes it less frustrating to navigate her site. It is obvious to me that there are pages she is still working on but this is not clear to another viewer who has not spoken with her about her site. It may be helpful to add "coming soon" to some of her not yet completed links.

On longer text pages Erica has added her bar of links at the bottom and back links to make it easier to move about her site. This does make it easier to find you way around. It would also be helpful to change to PDF's in the site to display in a new window so that the page you are on does not disappear. It could also be helpful for people not familiar with the YEPE trip to write a brief description of what this project was. The homepage link says, "find out more about the YEPE" but there isn't really a description of what it is.

I think the design of this site is solid and visually very appealing. As Erica works with the content more the site will become very professional. Making a few changes to give it a more complete look while she is working on it would make the site more flexible.