

Project Website Setup Process

1.0 Introduction:

Students are expected to create and maintain project websites during their ECE477 semester. These sites are used to showcase student projects and serve as the primary resource for information related to a particular student team's project. There are a number of steps and guidelines to assist students with setting up their project websites, which are presented here.

1.1 Guidelines Concerning Project Websites:

There are few guidelines concerning project websites; students are generally allowed to maintain whatever website structure they desire.

One important requirement is that whatever project website structure a team develops must be hosted on the webspace provided to the student teams by the ECE477 course staff. At the time of this writing, Purdue's web hosting does not provide support for MySQL, so services which use MySQL, such as Wordpress, are not allowed.

In addition to the hosting requirement, certain content is expected on all ECE477 student websites. All student websites should include:

1. Links to locally-hosted copies of all completed course assignments
2. Links to relevant datasheets and application notes used to develop the student team's senior design project
3. Individual progress reports for each team member. Each report is to be maintained as a separate webpage, and these reports are to be updated on a weekly basis to reflect the students' contributions and technical achievements. A Progress Report Policy is available on the course web page which provides requirements and guidelines for student progress reports.

1.2 Student Website Templates

At the time of this writing, a website template has been made available for students to use for their project websites. The template is available from on the processes section of the course website. Instructions for setting up the student website template are mentioned in section 2.1, below.

2.0 General Website Setup Instructions

1. Obtain your group account login credentials from the Graded Materials Download portal, available here: <https://engineering.purdue.edu/ece477/Download/download.html>
2. Student teams have been provided with a project account which is hosted on the ECN server 'shay' at the time of this writing. Map a network drive to 477grpN (where N corresponds to your team number) on shay.ecn.purdue.edu. Instructions for mapping network drives are provided below:
 1. Mapping a network drive in Windows: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/create-shortcut-map-network-drive#1TC=windows-7> (Note: when

specifying a user, be sure to use the domain ECN as opposed to some other domain that Windows may use by default.)

2. Mapping a network drive in Mac OS X:
<http://www.usciences.edu/it/helpdesk/forstudents/MacDriveMapping.shtml>
3. Mapping a network drive in Linux:
http://web.stevens.edu/itwiki/w/index.php/Linux_Map_a_Network_Drive (modify example as necessary)
3. Your course account should come with a folder called 'web'. This folder is a symbolic link used to access the web hosting space. Files placed in the web hosting space will show up on the student project website, located at <https://engineering.purdue.edu/477grpN>, where N corresponds to the student team's assigned team number.
 1. Should it be the case that a student team's course account does not have a web directory, one can be created. Simply log in to the ECE477 project account via ssh using the credentials provided in step 1. Once logged in, issue the following shell command:

```
ln -s /web/entities/477grpN web
```

A web directory should now exist which is accessible on the student team's mapped network drive.

4. With the web directory established and access to the web hosting complete, choose a website template and use it to develop your website. Feel free to use the ECE477 student website template for your design needs. Alternatively, there are numerous online resources for finding free website templates, a few example sites are given below.
 1. <http://www.freewebsite.com/>
 2. <http://www.tooplate.com/>
 3. <http://www.freewebsitetemplates.com/>

2.1 Student Web Template Setup Instructions

For students wishing to use the provided student website template, the following setup instructions will help ensure a smooth website setup.

1. Download a copy of the website template from the course website, and copy the contents of the zip archive to the web directory on your project account.
2. At the time of this writing, the student website template makes use of a combination of root-relative links and an HTML <Base> tag to manage internal links. The <base> tag needs to be modified on a number of pages to ensure correct website function. Search through the beginning of the html on the pages listed below for a line that looks like the following:

```
<base href="https://engineering.purdue.edu/ece477/StudentWebTemplate/" />
```

and change it to:

```
<base href="https://engineering.purdue.edu/477grpN/" /> (where N corresponds to your student team number) DO NOT forget the trailing slash, as it is important.
```

This modification needs to be made to the following files (all files given relative to site root):

1. /index.html
 2. /Files/documents.html
 3. /Files/references.html
 4. /Media/media.html
 5. /Team/team.html
 6. /Team/progress/member1.html (rename this file from 'member1' to the Purdue ID of the first member of your team)
 7. /Team/progress/member2.html (rename this file from 'member2' to the Purdue ID of the second member of your team)
 8. /Team/progress/member3.html (rename this file from 'member3' to the Purdue ID of the third member of your team)
 9. /Team/progress/member4.html (rename this file from 'member4' to the Purdue ID of the fourth member of your team)
3. In most other places, updating information should be fairly straightforward. Note that all pages in the student web template utilize JQuery to load certain global site elements, such as the header, navigation bar, and footer. Certain other pages take advantage of JQuery loading, namely team.html in the Teams page (therefore, when updating team members, the web admin can update the individual team member html files without needing to make any changes to team.html)
4. When linking to resources internal to the student website, hrefs should utilize root-relative links with the leading / omitted. These will work in conjunction with the base tag to produce correct, consistent results.

Suppose for example one wishes to reference a particular datasheet in their progress report (or anywhere else on the site). Datasheets, in the template example, are located in /Files/refs/datasheet_name.pdf. A proper href therefore has the following form:

```
<a href="Files/refs/datasheet.pdf">reference document</a>
```

The following common URL structures can produce inconsistent behavior on the student site template and are discouraged:

1. `<a href="../../../Files/refs/datasheet.pdf">reference document</a>`
 2. `<a href="https://engineering.purdue.edu/477grpN/Files/refs/datasheet.pdf">reference document</a>`
 3. `<a href="/Files/refs/datasheet.pdf">reference document</a>`
5. Each level of the directory structure within the student website template contains a folder called 'img' which is intended for image assets.