



INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED DIPLOMA  
IN  
COMPUTER STUDIES



**MODULE:  
ADVANCED WEB DESIGN**

**ASSIGNMENT TITLE:  
CITY BREAK GUIDE**

**DECEMBER 2009**

**Important Notes:**

- ❖ Please refer to the Assignment Presentation Requirements for advice on how to set out your assignment. These can be found on the NCC Education *Campus*. Scroll down the left hand side of the screen until you reach Personal Support. Click on this, and then on Policies and Advice. You will find the Assignment Presentation Requirements under the Advice section.
- ❖ You must familiarise yourself with the NCC Education Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism Policy and ensure that you acknowledge all the sources which you use in your work. The policy is available on *Campus*. Follow the instructions above, but click on Policies rather than Advice.
- ❖ You must complete the ‘**Statement and Confirmation of Own Work**’. The form is available on the Policies section of *Campus*. Scroll down the left hand side until you reach Personal Support. Click on this and then click on Policies and Advice.
- ❖ Please make a note of the recommended word count. You could lose marks if you write 10% more or less than this.
- ❖ You must submit a paper copy and digital copy (on disk or similarly acceptable medium). Media containing viruses, or media which cannot be run directly, will result in a fail grade being awarded for this module.
- ❖ All electronic media will be checked for plagiarism.

**Marker's comments:**

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## Introduction

The city break is a popular type of holiday. Regardless of the weather or time of year, two or three days experiencing the sights and sounds of a different city can make a fascinating and memorable holiday. Among the most popular city break destinations are large cities such as Paris, Dubai, London and Rome. There are many guidebooks and on-line guides for travellers wishing to visit these popular destinations. Many of the world's smaller and lesser-known cities also have much to offer visitors, especially for short breaks. However, finding information about things to do and advice on the best places to eat and stay for these lesser-known destinations can be more difficult.

## Scenario

A UK travel agent is keen to promote a number of British cities as destinations for short breaks. Each of the cities has much to offer visitors but isn't always thought of as being a usual city break destination. With the aim of encouraging more visitors the travel agent wants to develop a series of websites that will act as on-line city guides. The websites will offer users advice on issues such as visitor attractions, accommodation and places to eat. They have approached you to develop the first of these websites which will be used as an example they can base future guides on. They would like you to develop the guide for ONE (1) of the following cities:

- Carlisle
- Swansea
- Stoke-on-Trent
- Lincoln

They want the guide to be useful for a wide range of visitors, from UK residents to foreign travellers. The guide should assume users have little or no previous knowledge of the city. The website will need to provide the following features:

- A homepage that provides a brief overview of the city and a good quality, attractive photo of the city.
- A series of pages that describe the different attractions the city has to offer: museums, historic buildings, parks, galleries etc. Each page should feature a description, a photograph and hyperlinks to external websites for further information.
- A page that provides a brief history of the city.
- A page that provides an example schedule for a weekend break in the city. It should specify an itinerary of places to visit in the morning, afternoon and evening for a two day stay. It should also recommend possible places to eat. This page should be presented as an XHTML table.
- A page that provides details of accommodation in the city.
- A page that describes the different restaurants and places to eat in the city.
- A page that provides essential tourist information such as the weather in the city, how to get around and shopping.
- A user review section. Users that have visited the city will be able to submit reviews of the visitor attractions, restaurants and accommodation, and post photographs of their stay in the city. Users will have to register with the website before posting a review. The website administrator will need a way to delete old or inappropriate submissions.

## **Task 1 Research – 10 Marks**

There are many different websites with information about things to see and do in each of the cities. You should do some research using these websites. When conducting your research bear in mind the purpose and aim of the website, to introduce the city as an exciting and appealing city break destination. You should make notes and record the addresses of useful websites that you find. Discuss these notes and ideas for your website with your tutor before proceeding.

## **Task 2 Design Specification – 15 Marks**

Using appropriate techniques, you should specify the structure and navigation of the proposed site. The site will need to feature a menu based navigation system. The design specification should be neat, use appropriate techniques and be easy to understand. Imagine the specification is being used to explain your website to someone with no prior knowledge. There should be enough detail, presented in such a way, that the viewer can quickly understand what will be developed.

## **Task 3 HTML – 30 Marks**

The website must be developed using XHTML 1.0 Strict and feature a minimum of ten interlinked pages. The website must feature the content described above (excluding the user review section) and meet the following criteria:

- Be consistent with the design specification produced for Task 2.
- Work fully in both Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox. You should consult your tutor for guidance on the specific versions of these browsers you should use.
- Be viewable on monitors with screen resolutions of 800x600 without users having to scroll horizontally.
- Integrate and use a range of media appropriately.
- Demonstrate good application of web design principles and be easy to navigate and use.

## **Task 4 CSS – 20 Marks**

Create a single external CSS file that specifies the design for the website. Each of the HTML pages must link to this CSS file. There should be no use of the style attribute or the <style> element in the website.

## **Task 5 Test the Website and Write a Test Report – 15 Marks**

You must use the W3C validation service (<http://validator.w3.org/>) to check your HTML and CSS code. You should endeavour to remove as many non-compliant features as possible. Save the output from this tool.

Test the website using both Internet Explorer and Firefox. Record in your notes any significant differences between the rendering and actions of the browsers and attempt to diagnose the cause. You do NOT need to modify your code to correct any differences between browsers.

Write a short report including the outputs from the validation service and for each validation error/comment that you did not remove or resolve, provide an explanation of the problem and what would be required to fix it.

The written part of your report must not exceed **1000 words**. Do not spend an excessive amount of time on this Task.

## **Task 6 User Review Section Report – 10 Marks**

Write a short report (approximately 1000 words) describing how you would implement the user review section and the problems you would need to overcome. Describe how you would make this section of the website easy to maintain. You should not write any code for this Task.

### **Guidance**

Consult with your tutor/lecturer if you are uncertain about any aspects of the assignment.

You do not need to write any computer programs for this assignment. Only XHTML and CSS are required.

The graphics and resources are all easily available through the Internet, or can be created using standard tools.

The purpose of this assignment is to provide an opportunity for you to show abilities in web design. Although you should be wary of needlessly adding features, websites that demonstrate a range of XHTML and CSS used appropriately have potential to gain higher marks. For example, a website that uses a wide range of CSS properties and selectors to control the layout and appearance of pages would generally score a higher mark than a website that simply uses CSS to change the colour and font of text.

### **Submission Requirements**

A word-processed, printed document containing all the written components of the assignment (Tasks 1, 2, 5 and 6) signed and dated by your tutor/lecturer.

A copy of all the word-processed material (Tasks 1, 2, 5 and 6) together with the web pages (Tasks 3 and 4) on appropriate media (floppy disk, CD-ROM etc.). Ensure that the web pages can be viewed directly from the submitted media. Do not submit any server-side code; it is not required for this assignment.

#### **Warning: All media must be virus free!**

Media containing viruses, or media which cannot be run directly, will result in a FAIL grade being awarded for this module.

**You must read and understand NCC Education's policy on 'Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism'.  
You must complete the 'Statement and Confirmation of Own Work' form and attach the completed form to  
your assignment.**