MA Digital Media & Society

NOTE: The website is referred to as the 2,500 words portfolio in the official documentation. This requirement is met via the content you will write and publish on your website.

brief 1	Get active!
background	The issue of weight gain is a global problem. In the UK, almost half of the people are either overweight or obese because our lifestyles have changed. More and more of us have desk-based, computer-based jobs, compared to the manual work of previous decades, and children's play has shifted from the street to the screen. People need to be persuaded that burning calories can be as
	fun as eating them! Children should exercise for 60 minutes a week and adults for 150 minutes a week.
creative challenge	Create a digital product which focuses on motivating children or adults to take part in regular physical activity. Don't preach! Think about how you can use the elements of digital media to encourage, persuade and motivate. Your product will need to change behaviour, to get people exercising and to get them excited about exercising.
	The UK's Department of Health website (https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health) may serve as a useful resource.
considerations	 It will probably help you focus by targeting a particular audience - eg low-income families, children in a particular age group or older people.
	 Think carefully about feeling and tone. When people aren't working, they want to spend time doing things they enjoy. Your idea must be enjoyable and positive.
deliverables	A site plan to outline the information architecture (this can be in form of a tree chart diagram or a well structured written document)
	A website with at least five pages presented online, containing: text, images/video as appropriate
	 A 500-word document describing considerations for each main part of the website, the content structure, tone of copy and why you chose to include certain elements.

SCS6079 **Digital Practices**MA Digital Media & Society

brief 2	Bringing up children in a digital age
background	Technology has always played a role in discussions about what it means to be a good parent. The pace of recent advances in digital media can leave parents and carers anxious about what these changes mean for their children and how they should go about bringing them up.
	These anxieties can be made worse by media stories about online dangers, the detrimental effects of 'screen time', or contradictory, optimistic tales about the opportunities that digital media bring for achievement or self-expression. Parents need help to navigate their way through the fast-pacing digital word.
creative challenge	Using the well-known Parenting for a Digital Future project as a resource (http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/parenting4digitalfuture/), create a website which draws on the project's research to give parents some simple tips about bringing up children in a digital age. Your website should contain a combination of text and images or video. Your target audience is parents of primary school children (aged 5-11).
considerations	 How will you communicate tips and advice to parents in an engaging and memorable way? How will you keep your audience engaged?
deliverables	 A site plan to outline the information architecture (this can be in form of a tree chart diagram or a well structured written document) A website with at least five pages presented online, containing: text, images/video as appropriate A 500-word document describing considerations for each main part of the website, the content structure, tone of copy and why you chose to include certain elements.

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brief 3	Being an international student
background	Students from around the world are attracted to UK universities, with their high-quality programmes of study and lively student life. While many international students succeed both academically and socially, some struggle to adapt to life in their new countries and can experience feelings of isolation.
	This is just one challenge faced by international students in the UK. Help to overcome these challenges could therefore be very welcome.
	PLEASE NOTE!
	This brief is NOT about students who are planning to study abroad, in Sheffield or elsewhere. This site is to support and help those who have just started their studies. The keyword is "BEING" an international student.
	In past years, some students interpreted this brief wrongly and had to revise their content before submission. Pay close attention to the specific target group and their needs. Sites presenting information on subjects like visas, or local commercial listings of offices or commercial outlets will not be suitable or accepted content.
creative challenge	Create a resource that provides insight into the experience of being an international student in the UK, to prepare future students to handle some of the challenges that arise whilst studying abroad. Think about how you might be able to incorporate first-person narratives and experiences into what you produce, and how these might be received by your target audience.
	These resources may help you: http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/international/index . Your target audience in international university students of any age. English is not their first language and this is their first time studying abroad.
considerations	 What are some of the main challenges international students face? How might they overcome them?
	 How will international students find the resources? What access challenges might they encounter?
	 How can you build on first-person narratives and experiences to engage your target audience?
deliverables	 A site plan to outline the information architecture (this can be in form of a tree chart diagram or a well structured written document)
	 A website with at least five pages presented online, containing: text, images/video as appropriate
	 A 500-word document describing considerations for each main part of the website, the content structure, tone of copy and why you chose to include certain elements.