

Final Project

Due: Friday, January 28, 2011

For your final project, you will learn to use a new \LaTeX package! We have explored the packages `fancyhdr`, and `geometry` (among others), and it is now your job to learn a new one. **You must get your \LaTeX package approved by me by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25.**

You will be demonstrating your mastery of this new \LaTeX package in two ways.

1. You will turn in a paper discussing the use and usefulness of your package. In your paper you should also demonstrate your ability to *use* this package. This paper should be written in \LaTeX . This will be your big chance to show off your skill at writing and formatting a beautiful paper. For the most part, the design is up to you, but it should be pleasing to the eye. You must have a table of contents, a title page, an abstract, and a bibliography created using `BibTeX`, and you should also use the `hyperref` package. The header, margins, spacing, sections, etc. are all up to you. Your paper should be at least 3 pages long. (If you believe you have a *legitimate* reason for not meeting this requirement, we can talk about it.)

You will turn in a hard copy of the paper to me at the beginning of class on Friday, January 28. You should also send me the relevant `.tex`, `.bib` and `.pdf` files (along with any graphics files that you use) through the Drop Box by this same time. This paper is worth 20% of your final grade.

2. You will be giving a short presentation (10 minutes) about your \LaTeX package. You should prepare this in \LaTeX (of course!) using either the `beamer` or `powerdot` document class. The purpose of your presentation is to explain what this package does and how it is used in practice.

You will be giving your presentation in our classroom during class on Friday, January 28. In addition to giving your presentation, you should place the `.pdf` file you will be using for your presentation in the Drop Box before class begins. This presentation is worth 20% of your final grade.

Note 1. You might be wondering how to choose a package to research. My first suggestion would be to pick a topic that you're interested in (say, music) and do a quick web search for \LaTeX and music. (There are \LaTeX packages for everything, including typesetting music, chessboards, résumés, and calendars!) The second suggestion is to open up the Package Manager program on the lab computer and look through the available package descriptions to see if anything catches your eye.

Note 2. Most good \LaTeX packages have documentation available, usually located in the appropriate folder within the folder

`c:\...\MikTeX 2.9\doc\latex.`

So, please consult this documentation when learning to use the package in question. You will also most likely want to *cite* this documentation in your paper. Be very careful about plagiarism. You may quote the documentation in places if you wish (giving credit when you do), but you must discuss this package in your own words.

I will be happy to help you throughout this project—just ask!
