

Hands-On Lesson

to accompany

*Curriculum Webs*

*A Practical Guide to Weaving the Web into Teaching and Learning*

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# LESSON 6: Designing a curriculum web with a consistent page format

GoLive

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## Goal for this lesson

- Create a navigation structure for a curriculum web
- Apply a consistent design to the pages of your curriculum web
- Upload your new curriculum web to the server.

In this lesson, we will create the file and link structure for a curriculum web that contains a home page, five pages containing demonstrations of steps or techniques, five activities implementing the demonstrated techniques, a final or culminating activity, and a list of useful links. This curriculum web is navigated in a linear fashion.

Figure 6-1 shows a Dreamweaver Site Map for the site you will create. The `index.htm` file is the home page; the five demonstration pages are called `demo1.htm`, etc; the five activities are called `activity1.htm` etc., and there is a list of links and a final activity. We will create this structure without including any content. Then, we will develop a template for the site that incorporates a consistent navigation scheme, and will apply this template to the pages in the site. Then, we will publish the site to the web server.

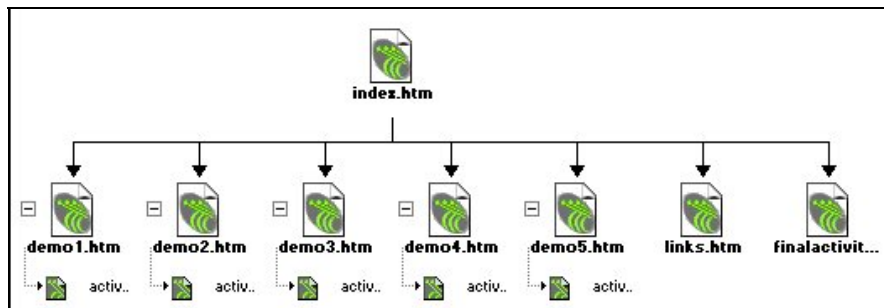


Figure 6-1: The structure of the curriculum web you will create in this lesson.

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## Creating a new server

If you have an account on a web server, you can use the space to support multiple curriculum webs (up to whatever limit is placed on your account size). To avoid having the web sites interfere with one another, it is necessary to create new directories for each curriculum. Depending on what type of web server you are using, creating a new directory is a matter of logging in to the server using an application like Telnet or SSH, or using

Windows Explorer or the Mac Finder, or using your web editing software to create the directory for you. We cannot cover all the possibilities here but will show you how to do it with Dreamweaver, GoLive, and FrontPage. Composer cannot be used to create new directories on the server. If you are using Composer you will have to find out the procedure from your technical coordinator or ISP.

First you need to define a site that has your top-level web directory (usually “www” or “public\_html”) as the host directory. Then you will connect to this site, and use the web editing software’s tools to create a new subdirectory. Then, you’ll create a new site using this subdirectory as the host directory.

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### *GoLive*

- If you have recently created a site with “www” or “public\_html” (or whatever your top-level web directory on your server is) as the Local Root Folder, then use File | Open Recent and choose that site.
  - ❖ If you have not already defined a site with your top-level web page directory as the Host Directory, do it now.
  - ❖ If you do not have any web pages on the server, use File | New Site and choose Blank. If you already have web pages on the server, use File | New Site and choose Import from FTP Server.
  - ❖ A window will open asking you to provide information about your FTP server. Once you have specified the correct server information, you can Browse the site to identify the home page (usually a file called index.htm).
  - ❖ Click Import....
  - ❖ Give the new site a name like “Home Site”
  - ❖ Click the Browse button next to the “In Folder” field. Browse to a place on your hard drive where you would like to keep your files. This could be on the Desktop or in My Documents.
  - ❖ A new folder will be created in the place you just selected, called “Home Site folder.”
  - ❖ If you are creating a blank site, a new file called index.htm will be created in the Home Site folder. The file is in bold text to indicate that it is the home page. If you are importing files already on the server, they will be downloaded and placed into the Home Site folder. The home page you

designated above will be shown in bold text. Now, to create your new directory:

- Use Site | FTP Server | Connect.
- To create a new directory on the server, right-click on the right-hand panel of the site view, and choose New Folder. Call the new folder Lesson6curriculumweb.
- Highlight the new folder. Copy it to your local computer by using Site | FTP Server | Download selection.
- Now, create a new site with Lesson6curriculumweb as the top-level folder.
  - ❖ Use File | Close to close the site you were just working on.
  - ❖ Use File | New Site | Import from folder.
  - ❖ Browse to the folder you just created, Lesson6curriculumweb. It will be inside the Home Site folder, inside another folder called Home Site.
  - ❖ Put a check mark next to the box labeled “create generic home page.”
  - ❖ When you get a window that says “Choose a file for the GoLive Site document, just click Save.
  - ❖ A site view will open up with one file in it, index.htm (the generic home page GoLive just created). The file is in bold text to indicate that it is the home page.

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## Creating a home page

(If you’re using GoLive, you already completed this step.)

Create a file called index.htm in the Lesson6curriculumweb folder. Define it as the home page of the site.

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## *GoLive*

You have already completed this step when you set up the Lesson6curriculumweb site.

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## Creating the site structure

Now we will set up all the files in the curriculum web. To remind you, we need index.htm (already created), demo1.htm, demo2.htm, demo3.htm, demo4.htm, demo5.htm, activity1.htm, activity2.htm, activity3.htm, activity4.htm, activity5.htm, links.htm, and finalactivity.htm.

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### *GoLive*

- Create the new files in the navigation view. Use Design | Navigation View. An icon for your home page appears in the middle of the screen. If you right-click on the home page icon, you can choose New and create a new page, automatically linked to the home page. You can also create multiple pages by right-clicking on an icon and choosing New Pages.... This is a very powerful tool.
  - ❖ For example, if you want to create the five demo pages, right-click on index.htm and choose New Pages.... Enter “5” for “Number of pages to create.” Enter “demo1” in the Filenames field. (GoLive will automatically create demo1.htm, demo2.htm, demo3, demo4, and demo5..) Set the stationary field to the Lesson6stationary files you created already.
  - ❖ Under “Generate Links,” you can control how GoLive sets up the initial links. All the files that are created at one time are at the same “level.” That is, they will all be “children” of index.htm. You can create links between index.htm and all of the children, and among the “siblings.” Experiment with this a bit.

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## Creating a template

Once you're done setting up your new site like this, you're ready to set up a template for the pages in the site.

Templates are files that control the layout of a number of HTML files in your site.

We will create a very simple template that will include a title and subtitle, and links to the demonstration pages, final activity, and links page. See Figure 6-2.

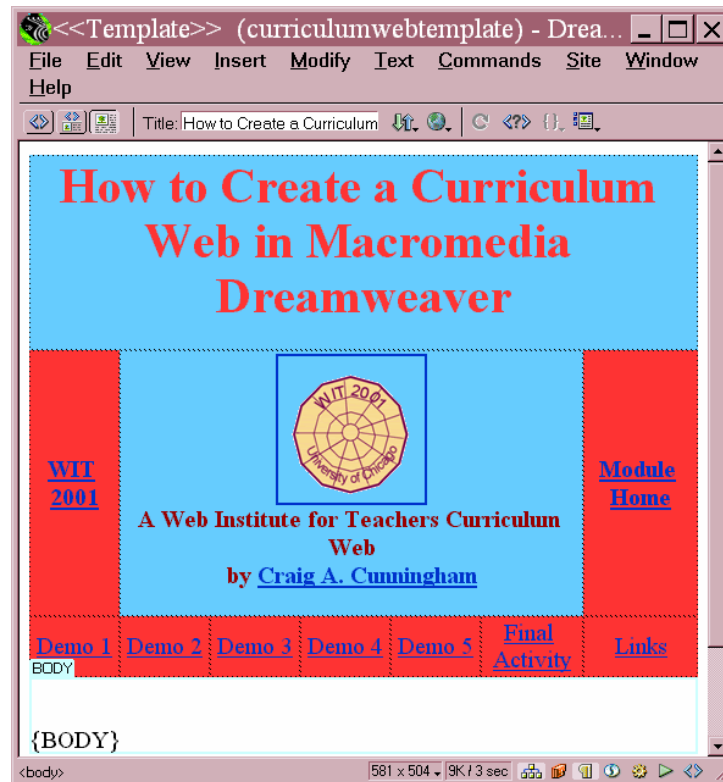




Figure 6-2: A sample template file for a curriculum web, shown in Dreamweaver.

## *GoLive*

GoLive does not have the capability of creating a template file in the same way that Dreamweaver does. However, there is a tool that you can use to the same effect, known as a “component.” Placing a component in multiple pages gives you an easy way of editing all the pages at once.

- Use File|New to create a blank page. You will use this blank page to create the page format shown in Figure 6-2.
- Add a table to the page by clicking the Table Object and dragging it to the document window. Change the table to include 3 rows and 7 columns.
- Select the first row of the table by Shift-clicking on the right border of the first row. Right-click on the selection and choose Merge Cells. Type a title into the merged cells. Apply the Heading 1 style to the title.
- Select the middle five columns of the second row. Right-click and choose Merge Cells. Type a sub-title into the merged cells. Apply the Heading 3 style to the subtitle.

- In the third row, enter Demo 1, Demo 2, etc, Final Activity, and Links. See Figure 6-2. Center these within their cells.
- Link these labels to their respective files by highlighting each label in turn, clicking the link icon on the Inspector, and then using the yellow folder icon to locate the correct files.
- Now you need to save the page as a component. Click the page icon near the upper left of the document window . Click on the HTML tab of the Inspector. Click on the button that says “Component” towards the bottom of the palette. Then Use File|Save As.... Click the button at the bottom right of the Save As... dialog box: . Choose Components. Give the file a name like “Lesson6pagetop.htm.”

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## Applying the template to pages

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### *GoLive*

- To use the Component, choose the Site Extras tab on the Object palette. Then choose Components from the drop-down menu at the bottom of the Objects palette. Click and drag the icon for the component onto each web page, and the component is automatically inserted.

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## Adding content

Normally at this point in the development of your curriculum web, you would be adding content to the pages. But we are going to skip that step here. However, you should make sure all the pages have appropriate titles. (We covered this in Lesson 3.) Make them short and descriptive. For now, just call them “Demo 1” etc. so you can see that all the links are working.

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## Updating multiple pages

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### *GoLive*

- If you want to edit the Component, double-click on it where you see it on the screen. It will open in a new window. Make your changes, then use File|Save and then File|Close. Click OK when GoLive asks you to update the other instances of the Component.

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## Uploading your site to the server

Once you've created your template and applied it to all the pages in your sample curriculum web, upload the site to the server.

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### *GoLive*

Make sure you are connected to the Internet.

- Use Site|FTP Server|Connect.
- Highlight the files or folders you want to upload. Right-click and choose Upload Selection.