

Student Websites

Managing Personal Web Pages at Ithaca College

Overview

Students can publish personal web sites by using the **public_html** folder in their Nova accounts. This folder is used to store all HTML pages and any related files used in the student's web site (images, movies, documents, etc.). This guide details the necessary steps for publishing a web site using this folder.

Once a student has created a site in **public_html**, their site can be accessed at http://students.ithaca.edu/<email_username>.

Getting Started

Creating a Web Site

Many programs are available for building web pages. ITS currently supports Dreamweaver, a program used to create web pages, and HTML, a formatting language used to write web pages.

When creating a web site, it is recommended that all HTML files, image files, and any other files included in the site be saved to the same folder. This structure allows for easy uploading and prevents missing images or broken links. It is also suggested that two versions of a web site exist: a local copy and a remote copy. The remote copy is the "live" or public version of the web site, while the local copy is saved to a hard drive or other storage device. This method guarantees that there is always an original copy of a web page in case a file is lost or changed.

Web Space

Because the **public_html** folder is part of students' Nova accounts, the only space restrictions on web sites are the storage limits of their accounts. **Each student is given 50 MB of space on Nova.** If additional space is still needed, a request can be made at the ITS Main Office in Muller 102. If an account has reached its quota, an error message will appear when trying to copy new files. **Please note, the new files will not be copied.**

There are a few, basic page requirements for all web pages on the Ithaca College server. All pages must contain the following information:

- The name of the person that maintains the pages and their email
- The date the page was last modified
- And a link to the IC homepage

There are policies that govern the use of the Ithaca College web site and all pages published through the server, as detailed in the Ithaca College Campus-Wide Information Systems Policy. These policies are available at <http://www.ithaca.edu/policies>.

Using public_html

Students save their websites to the **public_html** folder located in their Nova accounts. If the **public_html** folder does not exist, the student can create one. Make sure the folder is called "public_html" (no quotes) and is all lowercase, with the underscore as indicated. **Please note, the public_html folder only supports HTML pages.** Other languages such as PHP will not work. Also, other technologies such as CGI, Perl, and MySQL are not available.

To publish a web site, copy all of the HTML and related files into the **public_html** folder.

Quick Guide

There are a few things to note about the system:

- In order to successfully publish a web site, the home page must be named **index.htm** or **index.html**. If there is no file called **index** in the **public_html** folder, the server will not recognize that a site is present.
- Once a file called **index** is saved to the **public_html** folder, the server will add the student's name to the directory of student web sites.

Other Resources

Quick Guides

Quick Guides on HTML basics, Dreamweaver fundamentals, and using WS_FTP and Fetch are available in hard copy in the ITS Main Office in Muller 102 and online at http://www.ithaca.edu/computing/quick_guides.

ITS Workshops

ITS offers several workshops on web site creation and maintenance. These workshops are offered throughout the semester and are open to students. To see a list of available workshops, check times, and sign up, go to <http://www.ithaca.edu/computing/workshops>.

For More Information

For more information on web development, go to the go to the ITS Support Site at <https://www.ithaca.edu/computing/support/>. For additional help, contact the ITS Helpdesk at helpdesk@ithaca.edu or 4-3282.