



**Award:** *International Diploma in Computer Studies*

**Module Title:** *Web Design*

**Assignment Title:** *History of Computing*

**Examination Cycle:** *June 2009*

**Candidate Name:**

**NCC Education**

**Candidate No:**

**Submission Date:**

**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:**

**Moderator's comments:**

**Mark:**

**Moderated  
Mark:**

**Final  
Mark:**

## Introduction

The history of computing is a long and interesting one. It began long before the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is full of stories about fascinating and determined characters whose achievements have contributed to the huge impact information technology has on the world today.

## Scenario

A professional body that represents the interests of computer scientists is concerned that young people perceive a career in information technology as being dull and boring. They want to produce a series of biographical websites that will tell the stories and describe the achievements of notable computer scientists. They hope these web resources will help change young people's perception of computer science and encourage them to develop an interest in computing that will lead to studying a computing course and/or pursuing a career in IT.

This professional body has approached you to develop the first of these websites. They would like you to base the website on one of the following computer scientists:

- Charles Babbage
- Alan Turing
- Ada Lovelace
- Douglas Engelbart
- Tim Berners-Lee

The website will need to provide an accessible and interesting account of the life and achievements of your chosen computer scientist.

## Task 1 – Research – 10 Marks

There are many different websites with information about the history of computing and notable computer scientists. You should do some research using these websites. When conducting your research bear in mind the purpose and aim of your website, to introduce your chosen computer scientist as an interesting and inspirational character. 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 – Project Plan – 10 Marks

Produce a project plan for the way you intend to complete the rest of this assignment. For planning, use the timescale you have been allocated for this assignment i.e. from the date you start to the date you submit your assignment. Submit a copy of your plan to your tutor BEFORE you proceed further with the assignment.

## Task 3 – Design Specification – 15 Marks

Using appropriate techniques, you are required to specify the structure and navigation of the proposed site. The specification should be neat, use appropriate techniques and be easy to understand. Imagine the specification is being used to explain your proposed 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 4 – Website – 40 Marks

The website must be developed using XHTML 1.0 (Transitional or Strict), and consist of between four and six inter-linked pages.

- One page must demonstrate the use of HTML tables. For example, a chronology of significant events in the life of your chosen computer scientist could be presented as a table.
- One page must demonstrate the use of HTML forms. This will provide an interface through which users can register with the site. They can then be notified when a new website in the series is published. You **are not** required to write any code that will process the data entered into this form.
- The website must demonstrate the integration of media. For example, you might want to include images of your famous computer scientist and their inventions.
- The website should demonstrate the use of hyperlinks. The pages in the site should be linked together with suitable navigation throughout. There should also be a links page which provides links to external websites for further information.
- The website should 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.
- Pages should be viewable on monitors with screen resolutions of 800x600 without users having to scroll horizontally.
- The content of the website should be presented clearly and neatly. The website should demonstrate good application of web design principles and be easy to navigate.

## Task 5 – Critical Evaluation – 25 Marks

You are required to write a short report (**1000 words**) analysing the website you have submitted. You should highlight the strong and weak aspects of your site, suggest improvements, and propose ideas for further development. It should be clear from this analysis that you have an understanding of basic web design principles and the technologies used to develop websites. This analysis must include a discussion of the accessibility of the site and how the website could be improved through the use of CSS (Cascading Style Sheets).

## Guidance

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

The website must be developed using XHTML 1.0 (Transitional or Strict) - no other technologies (e.g. CSS, JavaScript) should be used.

The purpose of this assignment is for you to show abilities in web design. Although you should be wary of needlessly adding features, websites that demonstrate a range of HTML features used appropriately have the potential to gain higher marks. For example, a form that features a range of different form elements applied in a useful and relevant way would generally score a higher mark than a simple form that only uses text boxes to gather data.

## Submission Requirements

1. A word-processed, printed document containing all the written components of the assignment (Tasks 1, 2, 3 and 5) signed and dated by your tutor/lecturer.
2. A copy of all the word-processed material (Tasks 1, 2, 3 and 5) together with the web pages (Task 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.**