Start here

A practical guide to the HTML, styles, images, and documents in this website folder.

Make your first edit

1. Make a backup copy of the website folder. Open the working folder in a plain-text code editor. Keep a browser window open beside it.

2. Open **index.html** in the editor. Press **Ctrl+F**, find **Your Name**, and replace the name in the page title and header. Save with **Ctrl+S**.

3. Double-click **index.html** in File Explorer to preview it. Refresh after saving; use **Ctrl+F5** if the browser still shows an old version.

Know which file to open

File or folder	What it controls
index.html	All page text, section structure, navigation, image paths, document links, and contact details.
css/portfolio.css	The custom design: colors, fonts, spacing, cards, image sizes, and responsive layouts. Start here for styling.
css/portfolio-layout.min.css	The bundled Bootstrap layout foundation. Keep it intact for routine edits.
css/portfolio-animations.css	Animation styles loaded by the page. Ordinary content edits do not require changes here.
images/ and images/placeholders/	Photos, graphics, and icons. The current HTML uses the JPG placeholders in images/placeholders/.
output/pdf/	The three linked writing-guide PDFs. Replace them with your completed documents.
js/main.js	The mobile menu, slideshow, smooth scrolling, and project image viewer.
scripts/, tmp/, other output files	Helper scripts, temporary files, and preview images used during development. They are not the page content.

Guide contents: HTML and sections (2) / images and projects (3) / CSS (4) / PDFs, links, and contact (5) / preview and troubleshooting (6). Prepared from this folder on October 23, 2026.

Edit the page content

Use Ctrl+F to jump to a section in index.html. Search terms are more reliable than line numbers as the file changes.

Find this text or ID	What to personalize
<title> and name="description"	The browser-tab title and the short description of your portfolio.
brand-name	Your name in the header. Also update the nearby home-link aria-label.
carousel-example-captions	Four introduction slides: headings, descriptions, images, and calls to action.
id="about-me"	Your introduction, goals, achievements, and social profile links.
id="my-credentials"	Certifications, Community Service, and Skills. Add specific names, dates, and examples.
id="portfolio"	Six project cards: category, title, description, image, and accessible link label.
id="headshot"	Your portrait, name, and short personal statement.
id="student-resume"	Resume preview image, document links, and explanatory text.
id="contact"	Your contact information and the school location/map.

Change the words; preserve the structure

```
<h1>Your Story Starts Here</h1>
<p class="hero-description">
  I am a student exploring design and technology.
</p>
```

Edit the text between the tags. Keep paired opening and closing tags, quotation marks around attribute values, and existing classes. A **class** connects an element to styles; an **id** identifies a specific element or section.

Keep section links connected

```
<a href="#about-me">About Me</a>
<section id="about-me" aria-labelledby="about-heading">
```

The link target and section ID must match. Keep IDs unique. If you rename an ID, update its navigation links, CSS selectors, and accessibility references as needed. For a new section, duplicate a similar complete section and give it unique section and heading IDs.

Writing tips: Use & in HTML for a visible ampersand. Replace student prompts with your own text. Keep aria-label text accurate when you rename links. These examples show only the part being edited; retain surrounding markup.

Replace images and projects

Use your own files in images/, then point the HTML at them. The image path in index.html determines what appears.

A reliable image replacement

1. Export your image as JPG or PNG and save it in **images/**, for example **my-headshot.jpg**. Use short filenames with lowercase letters and hyphens. Changing an extension alone does not convert an image.

2. Find the existing image in **index.html**. Update **src**, write a useful **alt** description, and set **width** and **height** to the new file's actual pixel dimensions. Keep existing loading/decoding attributes.

```
<img src="images/my-headshot.jpg"
     alt="Portrait of Alex Rivera"
     width="640" height="897" loading="lazy"
     decoding="async">
```

Current image group	Current pixel size
Four slideshow images	1440 x 960 each
Six project thumbnails	900 x 600 each
Headshot / resume preview	640 x 897 / 600 x 740
Credential icons / social icons	128 x 128 / 112 x 112
Favicon (browser tab icon)	32 x 32

These sizes match the current placeholders; they are useful export targets. Keep similar proportions for predictable layouts. CSS may scale, crop, or contain images. The resume preview is an image, separate from the resume PDF.

Update both paths on a project card

```
<a class="imgport project-link" href="images/my-project.jpg"
   data-toggle="modal" data-target="#modal-login"
   aria-label="View my website project image">
  <!-- Keep the existing project-image wrapper. -->
  <img src="images/my-project.jpg"
       alt="Home page of my student website"
       width="900" height="600" loading="lazy">
  <!-- Keep the remaining card content and closing tags. -->
</a>
```

The **img src** displays the thumbnail; the surrounding **a href** supplies the enlarged image. Update both. To add a project, duplicate a complete **<article class="project-card">...</article>** block inside **portfolio-grid**, then update its content and number.

Existing filenames: You can also replace a placeholder with a new file at the same path. Update its alt text and dimensions. Editing older images elsewhere in images/ will have no effect unless the HTML references them.

Change the CSS

Open css/portfolio.css. Search for an existing selector or section comment before adding a new rule.

Read a style rule

```
#student-resume {
  padding: 88px 0;
  background: #f5f4f0;
  color: #292d2f;
}
```

#student-resume targets one section ID. A selector beginning with a dot, such as **.brand-name**, targets a class. Inside braces, each property has a value and ends with a semicolon. Here, padding adds 88px above and below the section and 0 on the sides.

Find this selector	Useful properties to edit
.brand-name	font-size for the header name; font-weight for its thickness.
#about-me p	font-size, line-height, and color for the introduction paragraphs. It is grouped with #contact p.
#portfolio	background for the portfolio section.
.portfolio-grid	gap for card spacing. Existing media queries adjust the column count for smaller screens.
#headshot img	width and border-radius for the portrait. Preserve max-width: 100% so it fits narrow screens.
#student-resume	background and padding for the resume section.
#carousel-example-captions .carousel-caption h1	Hero heading styles near the end of the file; also check the grouped h2 rule and mobile overrides.

Example: change a section color and portrait corners

```
/* Personal adjustments */
#student-resume { background: #eef4f5; }
#headshot img { border-radius: 16px; }

@media (max-width: 767px) {
  #headshot img { width: 260px; }
}
```

You may edit the original rules or place a small, labeled customization block at the end of **portfolio.css**. For equally specific selectors, a later rule wins. More specific selectors can override a broad rule even when the broad rule appears later.

Responsive styles: This stylesheet includes 991px and 767px breakpoints. Test wide and narrow windows after edits; a late global rule can override mobile styling. The body font is not the only font rule: several sections set their own fonts. Keep focus outlines and readable text contrast.

Manage PDFs and links

Keep file paths relative to the project folder so the website works after it is copied or uploaded.

Replace the three writing-guide PDFs

Create your completed documents in a word processor and export them as PDFs. Back up the existing guides, then replace these exact files to preserve the current links:

```
output/pdf/cover-letter.pdf
output/pdf/resume.pdf
output/pdf/follow-up-letter.pdf
```

If you choose different filenames, update the corresponding **href** values in **index.html**. Also revise the text that says the PDFs contain instructions, the **resume-note** placeholder label, and the separate resume preview image.

```
<a class="resume-pdf" href="output/pdf/resume.pdf"
   target="_blank" rel="noopener">Open resume PDF</a>
```

Understand paths and destinations

Example	Meaning
images/my-project.jpg	A file path from index.html to a file in images/.
url("../images/my-project.jpg")	A CSS image path from css/portfolio.css: go up one folder, then into images/.
#portfolio	Jump to an existing section ID on this page.
https://example.com	An external website. Replace with the actual destination.
mailto:name@example.com	Open an email application. Replace with your email address.

Finish social and contact links

In **about-socials**, replace each **href="#"** with your full profile URL, or remove the entire unused link. In Contact, update your name/email, school name/address, displayed phone number, and the matching **tel:** number.

The current school address does not match the map query, and the visible phone number does not match the tel: link. Replace these sample values together. Update the iframe src and title, map caption, Open map href, and its aria-label for the same school location.

When a project should open a website instead

Set the project link href to the full website URL and remove **data-toggle="modal"** and **data-target="#modal-login"** from that link. Update its label and action text. Otherwise, the image-viewer code treats the destination as an image.

Filename rules: Use forward slashes in HTML/CSS paths. Match filename case exactly for hosting. Avoid local C:\ paths. If you change the favicon to PNG, update both its href and type="image/png" in the head.

Preview, check, and share

Save small changes frequently. Check the result in the browser after each change so problems are easy to trace.

Preview locally

Double-click **index.html** for a basic preview. This is a static website with no build step. For an HTTP preview, open a terminal in this folder and, if Python is installed and available through the Windows launcher, run:

```
py -m http.server 8000 --bind 127.0.0.1
```

Visit **http://127.0.0.1:8000/**. Leave the terminal running while you preview; press **Ctrl+C** to stop it. An editor's local preview server is another option. Google Fonts, Font Awesome, and the Google map require internet access.

Before you share the site

Content: Search for Your Name, Students:, placeholder, and href="#". Review remaining matches. Confirm every project describes your own work and every contact detail is ready to share.

Interactions: Click each navigation link, all four slides, every project image, the viewer's close button, the full-size image link, all three PDFs, social links, phone link, and map link.

Small screens: Narrow the browser to phone width (about 390px) and tablet width (about 768px). Check the mobile menu, text wrapping, portrait, cards, and horizontal scrolling.

Keyboard: Use Tab to follow focus; Enter/Space to operate slideshow controls; Escape to close the image viewer. Keep visible focus outlines.

Quick fixes

Symptom	What to check
A saved change is missing	Save the right file, confirm the browser is viewing the same folder, then use Ctrl+F5.
An image or PDF is missing	Check the exact path, filename, extension, and capitalization. Confirm the file was copied or uploaded.
A thumbnail opens an old image	Update both the project image src and its surrounding link href.
The page looks unstyled	Confirm the css/ folder is present and the stylesheet links in the head are intact.
Menu, slides, or viewer stop working	Confirm js/main.js loads. Look for altered IDs/data attributes or a browser-console error.
A style has no effect	Check matching classes/IDs, missing braces, more specific rules, later rules, and media queries.

Upload checklist: Keep index.html at the site root and preserve css/, js/, images/, and output/pdf/ paths. Upload assets used by the HTML and CSS. Helper scripts and temporary previews are not required. Only js/main.js is currently referenced by the HTML; avoid adding legacy scripts without a reason. Recheck links on the hosted site.