

SS2 LESSON NOTE

SECOND TERM

WEEK 1: INTERNET

The Internet is the global system of interconnected computer networks that use the Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP) to link billions of devices worldwide. It is a network of networks that consists of millions of private, public, academic, business, and government networks of local to global scope, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless, and optical networking technologies. The Internet carries an extensive range of information resources and services, such as the inter-linked hypertext documents and applications of the World Wide Web (WWW), electronic mail, telephony, and peer-to-peer networks for file sharing.

SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION PROCESS

- **Anchor** Synonymous with hyperlinks, anchor refers to non-linear links among documents. Or more simply put, it's the word or phrase that can be clicked to connect to another page or resource.
- **ASCII** (pronounced "Ask-ee") An acronym for American Standard Code for Information Exchange, ASCII is an international standard in which numbers, letters, punctuation marks, symbols and control codes are assigned numbers from 0 to 27. Easily transferred over networks, ASCII is a plain, unadorned text without style or font specifications.
- **Avatar** This term refers to an interactive representation of a human in a virtual reality environment.
- **Browser** A type of software that allows you to navigate information databases.
- **Client** A computer that has access to services over a computer network. The computer providing the services is a server.
- **DNS** An acronym for Domain Name Server, DNS refers to a database of Internet names and addresses which translates the names to the official Internet Protocol numbers and vice versa.
- **Document** When used in reference to the World Wide Web, a document is any file containing text, media or hyperlinks that can be transferred from an HTTP server to a client program.
- **Document Window** This is the Mosaic program's scrollable window in which HTML documents can be viewed.
- **Download** To transfer to your computer a copy of a file that resides on another computer.
- **FAQ** This is the acronym for Frequently Asked Questions. A common feature on the Internet, FAQs are files of answers to commonly asked questions.
- **Firewall** This term refers to security measures designed to protect a networked system from unauthorized or unwelcome access.
- **FTP** File Transfer Protocol is a protocol that allows the transfer of files from one computer to another. FTP is also the verb used to describe the act of transferring files from one computer to another.
- **Gopher** A menu-oriented tool used to locate online resources.
- **Gopherspace** A term used to describe the entire gopher network.
- **GUI** An acronym for Graphical User Interface, this term refers to a software front-end meant to provide an attractive and easy to use interface between a computer user and application.
- **Home Page** The document displayed when you first open Mosaic. Home Page also refers to the first document you come to at a Web site.
- **Hotlists** Lists of frequently used Web locations and URLs (Uniform Resource Locators).
- **Host** A computer acting as an information or communications server.
- **HTML** An acronym for HyperText Markup Language, HTML is the language used to tag various parts of a Web document so browsing software will know how to display that document's links,

text, graphics and attached media. • HTML Document A document written in HyperText Markup Language. • HTTP The abbreviation for Hypertext Transfer Protocol, HTTP is used to link and transfer hypertext documents. • Hypermedia The hypertext concept extended to include linked multiple media. • Hypertext This term describes the system that allows documents to be cross-linked in such a way that the reader can explore related documents by clicking on a highlighted word or symbol. • IP The abbreviation for Internet Protocol, IP refers to the set of communication standards that control communications activity on the Internet. An IP address is the number assigned to any Internet-connected computer. • ISDN The abbreviation for Integrated Services Digital Network, ISDN is a telecommunications standard that uses digital transmission technology to support voice, video and data communications applications over regular telephone lines. • JPEG The acronym for Joint Photographic Experts Group, JPEG is an image compression format used to transfer color photographs and images over computer networks. Links These are the hypertext connections between Web pages. This is a synonym for hotlinks or hyperlinks. • POP An acronym for Point of Presence, POP is a service provider's location for connecting to users. • Router A communications device designed to transmit signals via the most efficient route possible. • Search Engine This term refers to a program that helps users find information in text-oriented databases. • Server A computer system that manages and delivers information for client computers. • TCP-IP The basic protocols controlling applications on the Internet. • URL This is the abbreviation for Uniform Resource Locator, The addressing system used in the World Wide Web and other Internet resources. • Web Browser This is the software that allows a user to access and view HTML documents. Examples of Web browsers include Mosaic, Cello and Lynx. • Web Document An HTML document that is browsable on the Web. • Web Page An HTML document that is accessible on the Web.