Creating custom error pages (page not found)

By default Hosting uses generic error pages that look like the following:

- **Page not found:** http://static.hosting.cornell.edu/infra-error/404.shtml
- **Not Authorized:** http://static.hosting.cornell.edu/infra-error/403.shtml
- **Application error:** http://static.hosting.cornell.edu/infra-error/500.shtml

If you wish to customize these pages you have two options:

1. Change the default e-mail contact
2. Create custom "ErrorDocument"

1. Change the default e-mail contact

You can create a ".htaccess" file that contains (SERVER_ADMIN must be all uppercase:

```
SetEnv SERVER_ADMIN \[e-mail address\]
```

This will change the e-mail address that is used by the default error pages.

2. Create custom ErrorDocument

If you wish to change the look/feel of the page you can create your own page and create a ".htaccess" file that contains:

```
ErrorDocument 404 /mycustomerror.html
```

Please note that if you are using ColdFusion (or a language that modifies the status code) that you will need to also specify the proper status code i.e. "<cfheader statusCode="404">", otherwise search engines and other agents may not correctly distinguish between content that exists and does not exist (i. e. it could look like "/page-does-not-exist" is a real page and will be indexed by a search engine).

For more documentation on ErrorDocument please visit (not affiliated with Cornell):

- http://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.2/mod/core.html#errordocument