

## ATLS 4630/5630: Web Front-End Development

### Week 3: HTML Forms

#### HTML Forms

The most common way to get user input on the web is through HTML forms.

Although forms often submit data to a server, we can also use the input client-side.

We're going to look at how we can use JavaScript to access form data and create interactive web pages.

Forms group together controls

- All controls must be within **<form>** **</form>** tags
- Each form element is stored as an object
- The input object can generate several elements
  - **type** specifies the type of element
  - **name** allows you to name the element
  - **id** allows you to give each element a unique id

#### Text field and text areas

Text fields handle one line of text.

Text areas are similar to a text box but can contain multiple lines

#### Check Boxes

Check boxes allow a user to choose from a group of options

- Each check box is independent
- Users can check as many check boxes as they want

#### Radio Buttons

Radio buttons allow a user to pick one choice from a group of options.

- Each button has an id that must be unique
- Radio buttons are grouped by the name attribute so only one can be chosen at a time

#### Select/List Boxes

A select, or list, box lets the user chose from a list of options.

Good choice if there are a lot of choices(state)

#### Buttons

Buttons usually trigger an action when clicked.

Use an event listener to listen for the click event to call a function to process the form.

Example:

- Pac-12 season tickets (form\_select.html)
  - text field
    - **input** is a self closing tag
    - **id** specifies the id of the text field
    - **value** specifies the text that the text box initially contains (optional)
    - **size** determines the size of the text box in number of characters (optional)
  - checkboxes
    - A label for the check box needs to be done separately in HTML

- Property "**checked**" is **true** or **false**
- radio
  - Radio buttons are grouped by **name** so only one can be chosen at a time
  - Each **id** must be unique
  - The value of the button is stored in **value**
  - **checked** stores if the button is checked
    - **true** for the chosen button
    - **false** for the ones not chosen
- select
  - The **select** object creates a drop down list box
  - The **select** object is a container for a series of **option** objects
  - Each **option** object has a value property that stores the value of the selected option.
- button
  - **type** describes what type of button it is
    - submit will submit the form to a server
    - button doesn't submit the form, by itself it does nothing
      - we use the event listener to handle the event
    - reset resets the fields in the form
  - **id** is a unique id
- text area
  - The **rows** and **cols** values determine the size of the text area (in characters)(optional)
  - These objects have a value property that you can read and write to
- Form formatting
  - Buttons have text in the tag
  - For all other form elements use **<label>**
    - The **for** attribute should reference the id attribute of its related element to bind them