

MIS3690 - Web Technologies



External and Inline Styles

Three ways to insert styles

- Internal CSS - We used this in previous classes
- Inline CSS
 - used to apply a unique style for a single element
 - we need to add the `style` attribute to the relevant element
- External CSS
 - in a separate `.css` file

Inline styles

- Syntax:

```
<tagname style="attribute: value; attribute: value; ...">
```

- Example:

```
<p style="font-size:small; color:blue">...</p>
```

Pros and cons of using inline styles

- Pros:
 - it puts style near the element it modifies
 - it avoids creating `id`
- Cons:
 - All styles no longer in one place.
 - Not a good alternative when same style is used multiple times - should use `class` instead
 - Harder to manipulate with JavaScript
- We should *avoid* using inline styles

In-class exercise: *ex07-1.html*

- Download *ex07-1.html* from GitHub (resources/templates)
- View the page in web browser
- Add a background color to one of the paragraphs using inline style
- Notice `12pt` font-size style for `<p>` in internal style sheet
- Override this for one of the paragraphs using inline style so that the paragraph appears in `18pt` font
- View it again to make sure it works.

External styles

- Same syntax as that of internal CSS
- Styles appear in separate file
 - `<style>` is not needed
 - file extension is `.css`
- Why use external CSS?
 - It keeps website design and content separate.
 - It assures consistency across website.
 - It is easier to change look and feel of website.

Applying external CSS

- Insert one or more `<link>` tags into the `<head>` section:

```
<head>  
  <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="xxx.css" />  
</head>
```

- `xxx` is the filename of the external stylesheet
- If multiple external style sheets are used, later `<link>` tags override and add to earlier `<link>` tags
- See demos
 - *lec07-demo-2.html* with different `.css` files

In-class exercise: *ex07-2.html*

- Download *ex07-2.html* from GitHub (resources/templates)
- View the page in web browser
- Edit the file to remove the styles from the internal CSS and place them into an external style sheet stored under *styles* folder
- add `<link>` tag to *ex07-2.html*
- View the page again. Its appearance should not have changed.
- Modify the external CSS file by adding
 - one `id`
 - one `class`
 - one advanced CSS selector
- View the page again. **Commit/push** to GitHub.

Questions?

