

# OIM3690 - Web Technologies



# **External and Inline Styles**

# Ways to Insert Styles

- **Internal CSS**
  - Used this in previous classes
  - Styles are written within the HTML file using the `<style>` tag inside `head`.
- **Inline CSS**
  - Used to apply a unique style for a single element
  - `style` attribute is added to the relevant element.
- **External CSS**
  - Used to separate styles from HTML content
  - Styles are written in a separate `.css` file and linked to the HTML file using the `<link>` tag.

# Inline Styles

- Syntax:

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

- Example:

```
<p style="font-size:1.2em; color:blue">...</p>
```

# Pros and Cons of Using **Inline** Styles

- Pros:
  - It puts style near the element it modifies.
  - It avoids creating `id` selector.
- Cons:
  - All styles are no longer in one place, making it difficult to maintain and update the overall design of the website.
  - Not a good alternative when same style is used multiple times
    - `class` should be used instead.
  - Harder to manipulate with JavaScript, as the style information is embedded within the HTML structure.
- It is generally recommended to **avoid using inline styles** in favor of more maintainable and scalable CSS methodologies.
  - More [discussion](#)

## Exercise: *ex07-1.html*

- Download *ex07-1.html* from GitHub (resources/templates).
- View the page in web browser.
- Use **inline style** on one of the paragraphs:
  - Add a background color
  - Change font-size to 18pt
    - It should override the **internal** style for the paragraph which was 12pt .
- Update *sitemap.html* and **commit/push** to GitHub.

# External Styles

- Uses the same syntax as internal CSS
- Styles appear in separate file.
  - The file extension is `.css`.
  - `<style>` tag is not needed in the `.css` file.
- Why use external CSS?
  - It keeps website design and content separate for better organization
  - It ensures consistency across the website.
  - It is easier to change the overall look and feel of the website.

# Applying External CSS

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

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

- `styles/xxx.css` is the path 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



## Exercise: *ex07-2.html*

- Download *ex07-2.html* from GitHub (resources/templates)
- View the page in web browser.
- Create an external style sheet, **ex07.css**, under **styles** folder
  - Cut internal style (inside `style` of *ex07-2.html*) and paste them into **ex07.css**
  - Add a `<link>` element to `head` of *ex07-2.html*.
  - View the page again - its appearance should not have changed.
- Modify the external CSS file, **ex07.css**, by adding:
  - One `id`
  - One `class`
  - One **advanced** CSS selector
- View the page again. Update **sitemap.html** and **commit/push** to GitHub.

# Questions?

