The `fancyhandout` class

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Abstract

A LaTeX class for typesetting fancy handouts.

This class and its documentation are currently under construction.
Commands, options and behaviour may change with future versions of the class.

Contents

Dependencies on other packages

The `fancyhandout` class requires $\mathrm{\LaTeX\,2_\varepsilon}$ and the following packages:

enumitem	geometry
fancyhdr	xcolor

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The latest version of this license is available at `http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt` and version 1.3c or later is part of all distributions of $\mathrm{\LaTeX}$ version 2008-05-04 or later.

This work has the LPPL maintenance status 'maintained'. The current maintainer of this work is Sebastian Friedl.
This work consists of the following files:

- `fancyhandout.cls` and
- `fancyhandout-doc.tex`

Call for cooperation

Please report bugs and other problems as well as suggestions for improvements by using the issue tracker on GitHub or sending an email to `sfr682k@t-online.de`.

1 Creating a handout

1.1 Loading `fancyhandout`

Load `fancyhandout` by using the `\documentclass` command.

By default, `fancyhandout` typesets documents using two side page layout on DIN/ISO A4 paper and an 11pt sans serif font. This can be changed by using these class options:

`10pt`	These options change the font size to 10 or 12 points.
`12pt`	Please do *not* use both options simultaneously.
`rmfont`	This option changes the used font to the roman (= serif) one.
`letter`	This option changes the page size to letter format.
`oneside`	This option leads to using one side page layout.

1.2 Providing document information

Basic LaTeX defines the commands `\title`, `\author` and `\date` for providing document information.
When using `fancyhandout` the following ones are available:

`\title` Sets the handout's title.

Example: `\title{An introduction on \texttt{fancyhandout}}`

`\subtitle` When required, a subtitle can be also provided.

Example: `\subtitle{With some notes on \LaTeX\ itself}`

`\author` Useful for specifying the author(s).
Multiple authors should be separated using the `\and` command inside `\author` (e. g. `\author{J. Doe \and M. Mustermann}`). `\and` will expand to `\qquad` in the title and to `,~` in the headline.

Example: `\author{Sebastian Friedl}`

`\institute` Additional or instead of the author(s), it is also possible to specify the institute(s) name. However, information about the institute won't be shown in the headline.

Example: `\institute{University of Foo Bar City}`

`\date` This command changes the date shown in the title and footline. Like all other LaTeX classes, `\date`'s value is `\today` until another value for `\date` is given.

Example: `\date{20. January 2018}`

Short version

It is also possible to pass short versions of the command's values as an optional argument in squared braces. These short values are used in the head- or footline.

Example: `\author[S. Friedl]{Sebastian Friedl}`

1.3 The handout title

\maketitle Using the `\maketitle` command, a colored title box displaying the information added like described in section 1.2 gets typeset.

The color of the box can be changed by `\colorletting` …

- `fancyhandouttboxlinecolor`
  to change the color used for drawing the line around the title box
  Example: `\colorlet{fancyhandouttboxlinecolor}{red!80!black}`

- `fancyhandouttboxfillcolor`
  to change the color used for filling the title box
  Example: `\colorlet{fancyhandouttboxfillcolor}{red!10}`

1.4 Sectioning

\section
\subsection
\subsubsection
\section*
\subsection*
\subsubsection*

fancyhandout supports the three basic sectioning commands `\section`, `\subsection` and `\subsubsection`. These commands produce sections, subsections and subsubsections visible in the table of contents (TOC).
The starred versions `\section*`, `\subsection*` and `\subsubsection*` are also provided and produce sections, subsections and subsubsections not visible in the table of contents.

All sections, subsections and subsubsections are *not* numbered.
Section and subsection headings are underlined to stand out. The colors of these lines can be changed by `\colorletting` …

- `fancyhandoutsectlinecolor`
  to change the color used for underlining section headings
  Example: `\colorlet{fancyhandoutsectlinecolor}{red!80!black}`

- `fancyhandoutsubsectlinecolor`
  to change the color used for underlining subsection headings
  Example: `\colorlet{fancyhandoutsubsectlinecolor}{red!70!black!70}`

Important note:
Unlike `article`'s sectioning commands, `fancyhandout`'s sectioning commands do *not* accept optional arguments in squared braces.

1.5 The main content

The main content may be any arbitrary LaTeX code.

However, there may be small problems when sections are involved:

- Since fancyhandout redefines all section commands, you can't refer to `\labeled` sections using the `\ref` command. If you do so anyway, LaTeX will throw a warning about suppressed empty links.
  For now, please use "workarounds" using `\pageref` and a hard coded section name,
  e. g. `see section "Introduction" on page \pageref{intro}`.

- Per-Section numberings (e. g. of equations) may also behave somewhat different. Generally, "undocumented features" may occur as soon as section numbers are involved. Solutions based on the current page number are definitely a better solution.

2 Advanced settings

2.1 Lists

By default, `fancyhandout` loads `enumitem` for setting `itemsep` to `0ex` and reducing `topsep` to `.75ex`.

`\setlist` These settings can be reverted or modified using the `\setlist` command (see the `itemsep` package documentation for further details).

2.2 Page margins

`fancyhandout` uses the `geometry` package for setting the page margins to 2.25 cm each, including page head and foot.

`\geometry` These margins (and the page geometry) can be modified using the `\geometry` command (see the `geometry` package documentation for further details).

Also, it is possible to construct the page area by loading the `typearea` package.

2.3 Paragraph indent

`\parindent` The length of `\parindent` is set to `0pt` when loading `fancyhandout`. If you want to change it, simply use some command like `\parindent 1em` after the class has been loaded to set `\parindent`'s length to it's initial value.

3   Upcoming features

Following features are planned to be finished with the next versions of `fancyhandout`:

1. Modify `\ref`'s behavior
   Insert the section name when referencing to labeled sections

2. Provide different styles for `\maketitle`
   e. g. centered text above a separation line

3. Provide `beamer`-like block environments

4. Provide color themes
   e. g. red, green, …

You may add other feature requests of public interest to the issue tracker on GitHub.