# Text Technology SS 17: CSS - Part 1

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### Plan

- Introduction
- Where to write CSS rules ?
- How to write CSS rules ?
  - Selectors
  - Properties and Values

#### Effect of CSS

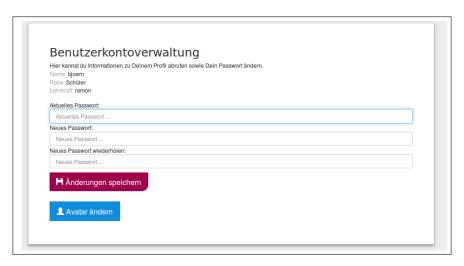


Figure: A web page with CSS

### Effect of CSS

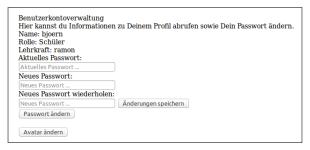


Figure: Web page from previous slides without custom CSS, only browser default style sheet

#### Introduction

- CSS = Cascading Style Sheets
- Cascading: the order in which rules are applied
- a language for defining the style (presentation) of markup languages
- e.g. web pages are styled via CSS
- every browser has a default style sheet

#### Introduction



source: created with imgflip.com

# Historical Perspective

- early HTML standards (1990s): structural/semantic markup
- following: HTML 3.2/4.0: adding many presentational tags
- HTML 5 (2014): new semantic elements, remove presentational markup
- $\rightarrow$  HTML5 encourages the split into structure (HTML) and presentation (CSS)

#### Division of Labour

- style (CSS) separated from structure (XML, mostly also HTML)
- style and structure can be changed individually
- e.g. applying a new style to a webpage without changing the content

however: CSS allows you also to entwine style and structure

different ways with different scope of rules:

- in style attribute of HTML elements ("inline")
- in style element in HTML head element ("internal stylesheet")
- in standalone file referenced via link in head element ("external stylesheet")

These methods can (and are often) combined.

1. Style Attribute at element

```
<div>the <span style="font-size:2em;">funding</span>
was granted ...</div>
```

2. Style Element in head

```
<html>
<head>
<style>
span{
   font-size:2em;
</style>
</head>
<body>
<div>the <span>funding</span> was granted ...</div>
</body>
</html>
only one style element with all declarations allowed
```

4 D > 4 A > 4 B > 4 B > B 9 Q C

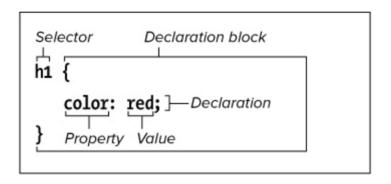
3. Separate linked file

```
<html>
<head>
<link rel="stylesheet" href="styles/mystyle.css">
</style>
</head>
<body>
<div>the <span>funding</span> was granted ...</div>
</body>
</html>
```

#### Considerations:

- styles defined in external/internal style sheets: ability to apply rules for sets of elements
- inline style: ability to override general rules for specific instances

#### How to write CSS rules?



source: Elizabeth Castro and Bruce Hyslop. HTML and CSS: Visual Quickstart Guide. Pearson Education, 2013. (Chapter 7)

- selectors locate elements to apply rules to
- different selection elements:
  - select by element
  - select by id
  - select by class
  - select by other attributes

These methods can (and are often) combined.

# Properties and Values

- declarations enclosed by curly brackets
- these brackets form the declaration block
- each key-value statement is followed by a semicolon
- indentation not necessary, but recommended for readability<sup>1</sup>
- in case of multiple values for one property: space-separated



#### Select by element

```
p {
            font-size: 1.3em;
}
```

select all elements of this type

Select by id

```
#table1 {
          background-color: blue;
}
```

- $\bullet$  select a specific element via id with prefix #
- ids are unique

#### Select by class

```
.code {
          font-family: monospace;
}
.code.red {
          font-family: monospace;
          color: red;
}
```

- ullet apply styles to all elements with this class o element-independent selector
- useful when styles are shared systematically
- elements can have multiple values in the class attributes

#### Select by attribute

```
a[title]{
    color: blue;
}
div[type="warning"]{
    background-color: red;
}
```

- select all anchors with a title attribute
- select all divs with an attribute type with value warning

#### Select by attribute

```
div[lang ^="en"]{
    color: green;
}
```

- select all divs with a lang attribute equals to or beginning with "en"
- e.g. select "en", "en-us", "en-gb"

```
p.code {
          font-family: monospace;
}
p, span {
          color: grey;
}
```

- apply styles to all elements with this class
- useful when styles are shared systematically

#### Wildcard

```
* {color: blue;}
```

- apply the rule to all elements
- \* as a wildcard

#### Descendants

```
p span {color: blue;}
```

 $\bullet$  selects only spans that are descendants of p

#### Children

```
p > span {color: blue;}
p.text > span {color: green;}
```

- selects only spans that are children of p
- selects only spans that are children of a p with class text

Sibling

```
img + span {
   font-style: italic;
}
```

 selects the immediate span siblings of a img element ("adjacent-sibling")

# Further Reading

Good step-by-step tutorial for learning CSS:

https://www.w3schools.com/css/default.asp

parts of the slides are inspired by this tutorial (in addition to the references listed below)

CSS Reference: https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/default.asp

- Elizabeth Castro and Bruce Hyslop. *HTML and CSS: Visual Quickstart Guide.* Pearson Education, 2013.
- Eric A Meyer. *Cascading style sheets: The definitive guide.* "O'Reilly Media, Inc.", 2004.