Introduction to JavaScript

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COMP2405

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Outline

- What is JavaScript?
  - History
  - Uses

- Adding JavaScript to HTML

- JavaScript syntax

- JavaScript events

- JavaScript classes

- The HTML Document Object Model

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What is JavaScript?

- JavaScript is a programming language for use in HTML pages

- Invented in 1995 at Netscape Corporation (LiveScript)

- JavaScript has nothing to do with Java

- JavaScript programs are run by an interpreter built into the user's web browser (not on the server)

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Where does JavaScript Fit In?

- Recall
    1. client opens connection to server
    2. client sends request to server
    3. server sends response to client
    4. client and server close connection

- What about Step 5?
    5. Client renders (displays) the response received from server

- Step 5 involves displaying HTML

- And running any JavaScript code within the HTML

What can JavaScript Do?

- JavaScript can dynamically modify an HTML page

- JavaScript can react to user input

- JavaScript can validate user input

- JavaScript can be used to create cookies (yum!)

- JavaScript is a full-featured programming language

- JavaScript user interaction *does not require any communication with the server*

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