





CSS basics

What is CSS



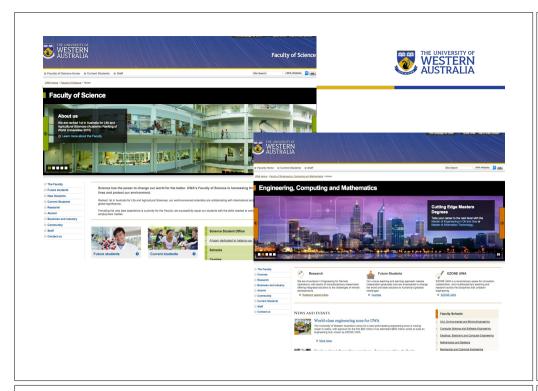
- CSS stands for Cascading Style Sheets
- a stylesheet language for the web
 - used to specify the presentation (layout and style) of markup languages
 - can be applied to any XML document as well as HTML.
 - superseded many HTML attributes that mixed presentation with content

```
body {
    background-color: lightblue;
}
h1 {
    color: white;
    text-align: center;
}
p {
    font-family: verdana;
    font-size: 20px;
}
```

Advantages of CSS



- Separation of content and presentation
- Advantages for the web
 - Speed stylesheet(s) downloaded once, rather than with each page (if content and style information is intermingled).
 - 2. Maintainability can be "centrally" maintained, easier to update
 - 3. Accessibility pages appear similar on different browsers and devices.
 - 4. Portability consistent styling across all devices supporting browsers.
 - 5. Reduced work e.g., don't have to specify alignment for every element.
 - 6. Consistency make an organisation's web pages have a consistent "look and feel" that matches the corporate ID, brand e.g., UWA...



Why "cascading"?



- There are three levels of style sheets
 - Inline styles applies to a single tag only.
 - Document style sheets appears in the document's <head> element and applies to the whole document.
 - External style sheets separate files, potentially on any server on the Internet, and can be applied to any number of documents in their <head> element.
- When more than one style sheet applies to a specific tag in a document, the lowest level style sheet has precedence, i.e. inline has the highest priority and external the lowest.

Inline styles



- Style specification appears as the value of the style attribute of almost any tag.
 - General form:

```
style="property_1: value_1;
    property_2: value_2;
    ...
    property_n: value_n"
```

- Example:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<hody>

    I have impeccable style.

</po>
</html>
```

 Warning: Inline styles defeats the purpose of style sheets i.e. uniform style. Use it for debugging but not much else!



Document styles



- Style specification appears as a list of rules that are the *content* of a <style> tag contained in the document <head>.
- · Specification form:

```
<style>
    rule1
    rule2
    ...
</style>
```

· Rule form:

```
selector {
  property1:value1;
  property2:value2;
  ...
}
```

• Property-value pairs are separated by semicolons, just as in the value of a style attribute.

External styles



A <link> tag inside <head> is used to specify that the browser is to fetch and use an external style sheet file, E.g. Wikipedia style sheet

http://en.wikipedia.org//skins-1.5/common/shared.css?165

```
link
rel="stylesheet"
type="text/css"
href="http://tiny.url/some.css">
</link>
```

• Form is identical to the contents of a <style> tag for document-level style sheets.

```
3mhtml, body, form, fieldset, img, img a {
15

16 ma:link, a:visited {

17 color: #685966;

18 text-decoration: underline;
19 }
20 ma:hover {
21 color: #2b212c;
28m/* SITE WIDTH
```

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CSS selectors

Selector basics



- A selector determines which elements the style applies to.
- There is a whole language for writing increasingly precise selectors.
- There are broadly two types, basic selectors that allow selection based one specific criteria, and combinators that then allow one to join multiple criteria together in various ways.
- Writing sets of CSS selectors that scale to large webpages and don't clash with each other is a

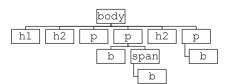
_
Example
* {}
p {}
[secret="yes"] {}
.important {}
#1234 {}
:onhover {}
::first-letter {}

Selector combinators	Example
Group selector	s1,s2,s3 {}
Descendant selector	s1 s2 {}
Direct descendant selector	s1 > s2 {}
Sibling selector	s1 ~ s2 {}
Direct sibling selector	s1 + s2 {}

Selector example



- To illustrate we will use the following HTML and CSS, replacing the "SELECTOR" as appropriate.



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
  <head>
     <style>
   SELECTOR {color:red}
                                                                                 Heading 2.a
  </style>

<
          a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
     <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
      Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
```

Heading 1

Second paragraph has a \boldsymbol{bold} and a span with another \boldsymbol{bold}

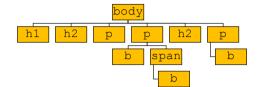
Heading 2.b

Third paragraph has a **bold** as well

Universal selector: *



- The universal selector * matches all elements.
- Matching on * results in:

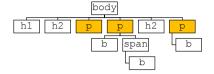


```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
                                                                  Heading 1
   <style>
  * {color:red}
  </style>
                                                                  Heading 2.a
  </head>
                                                                  First paragraph
  <hodv>
    <hl title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </hl>
                                                                  Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
   <h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
 First paragraph 
                                                                  Heading 2.b
    Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
        a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                                  Third paragraph has a bold as well
   <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
</html>
```

Element selector: element



- An element selector matches one specific type of element.
- For example, matching on p results in all elements being highlighted.



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
                                                                Heading 1
 <head>
   <style>
   p {color:red}
</style>
                                                                Heading 2.a
 </head>
                                                                First paragraph
    <hl title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </hl>
                                                                Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
   <h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
 First paragraph 
                                                                Heading 2.b
     Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
        a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                                Third paragraph has a bold as well
    <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
Fhird paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
  </body>
</html>
```

Attribute selector: [attribute=value]



b

body

b

р

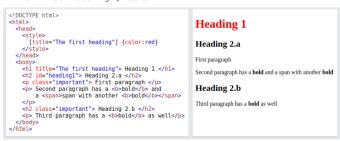
span

b

р

h2

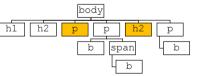
- An attribute selector matches on any element that has a given attribute with the specified value.
- The value may be omitted to select elements with that attribute with any value.
- For example, matching on the attribute
 [title="The first heading"] results in:

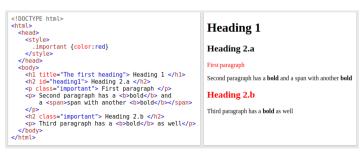


Class selector: .class



- Class selectors allow the grouping of a set of elements (that may not even use the same tag).
- The class is set using the special class attribute.
- For example, matching on the class .important results in:

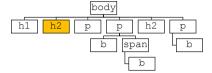




Id selector: #id



- An id selector selects an element with the special id attribute.
- Unlike class where each value can occur on many tags, each id value must only occur on a single tag the document, e.g. so they can be referenced in the URL and used for navigation.



- Matching on #heading1 results in:

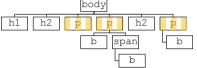
```
<!DOCTYPE html>
                                                                Heading 1
  <head>
    <style>
      #heading1 {color:red}
                                                                Heading 2.a
    </style>
  </head>
                                                                First paragraph
  <body>
    <h1 title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </h1>
                                                                Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
    <h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
 First paragraph 
     Second paragraph has a <bbold</b> and
    a <span>span with another <br/>d>bold</b></span>
                                                                Heading 2.b

<h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
                                                                Third paragraph has a bold as well
    Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
</body>
```

Pseudo-class selector: :state



- Pseudo-class selectors allow selecting elements based on their *state* (e.g. hover, focus, valid, visited)
- For example, matching on the class p:hover results in the paragraph elements being highlighted when you hover over them:



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
                                                Heading 1
 <head>
   <style>
     p:hover {color:red}
                                                 Heading 2.a
   </style>
 </head>
                                                 First paragraph
 <hndv>
   Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
    First paragraph 
    Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
                                                 Heading 2.b
      a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                 Third paragraph has a bold as well
   <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
   Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
</html>
```

Pseudo-element selector: ::pseudo-element



b

body

b

р

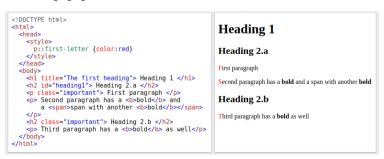
span

b

р

h2

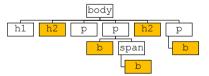
- Pseudo-element selectors allow you style a specific part of an element (e.g. first-line, first-letter, backdrop)
- For example, matching on the class p:firstletter results in the first letter of each paragraph elements being highlighted.



Group selector: s1, s2



- Group selector s1, s2 act as a logical *or*, applying the style to elements that match either s1 or s2.
- For example, matching on h2, b results in both level 2 headers and bold text being selected:

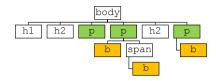


```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
                                                      Heading 1
 <head>
   <style>
     h2, b {color:red}
                                                      Heading 2.a
   </style>
 </head>
                                                      First paragraph
 <body>
   <h1 title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </h1>
                                                      Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
   <h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
    First paragraph 
                                                      Heading 2.b
   Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
       a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                      Third paragraph has a bold as well
   <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
   Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
 </body>
</html>
```

Descendent selector: s1 s2



- The descendant selector s1 s2 selects anything that matches s2 that is below something that matches s1 in the tree.
- For example, matching on p b results in every bold element below a paragraph element to be selected



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
                                                                     Heading 1
   <head>
     p b {color:red}
</style>
                                                                     Heading 2.a
   </head>
                                                                     First paragraph
    cody/

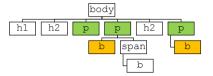
<hl title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </hl>

<h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
class="important"> First paragraph 
                                                                      Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
                                                                     Heading 2.b
     Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
         a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                                     Third paragraph has a bold as well
     <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
     Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
   </body>
 </html>
```

Direct descendent selector: s1>s2



- The direct descendant selector s1>s2 selects anything that matches s2 that is directly below something that matches s1 in the tree.
- For example, matching on p>b results in every bold element directly below a paragraph element to be selected.

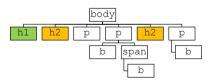


```
<!DOCTYPE html>
                                                          Heading 1
  <head>
    <stvle>
     p>b {color:red}
                                                          Heading 2.a
    </style>
  </head>
                                                          First paragraph
  <body>
    <h1 title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </h1>
                                                          Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
    <h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
 First paragraph 
    Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
                                                          Heading 2.b
        a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                          Third paragraph has a bold as well
    <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
    Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
</body>
```

Sibling selector: s1~s2



- The sibling selector s1~s2 selects anything that matches s2 that shares a parent with something that matches s1 in the tree.
- For example, matching on h1~h2 results in every h2 element to the right of a h1 element being selected.

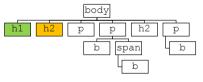


```
<!DOCTYPE html>
                                                                Heading 1
 <head>
   <stvle>
      h1~h2 {color:red}
                                                                Heading 2.a
    </style>
 </head>
   <h! title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </h!>
<h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h!></h!>
                                                                Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
    First paragraph 
 Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
                                                                Heading 2.b
        a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                                Third paragraph has a bold as well
    <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
    Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
</body>
```

Direct sibling selector: s1+s2



- The direct sibling selector s1+s2 selects anything that matches s2 that is the next child along of something that matches s1 in the tree.
- For example, matching on h1+h2 results in every h2 element directly to the right of a h1 element being selected.



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
                                                                   Heading 1
  <head>
    <style>
    h1+h2 {color:red}
</style>
                                                                   Heading 2.a
                                                                   First paragraph
    <hl title="The first heading"> Heading 1 </hl>
                                                                   Second paragraph has a bold and a span with another bold
   <h2 id="heading1"> Heading 2.a </h2>
class="important"> First paragraph 
    Second paragraph has a <b>bold</b> and
                                                                    Heading 2.b
         a <span>span with another <b>bold</b></span>
                                                                    Third paragraph has a bold as well
   <h2 class="important"> Heading 2.b </h2>
 Third paragraph has a <b>bold</b> as well
</html>
```

Conflict resolution



- An element may be the subject of more than one rule because:
 - 1. A tag may be used twice as a selector.
 - 2. A tag may inherit a property and be used as a selector.
- This is often unavoidable as your page will invariably contain multiple style sheets with conflicting definitions:
 - Author style sheets (style sheets written and loaded by the developer)
 - User style sheets, (style sheets written by the user via the browser settings)
 - User agent style sheets (default style sheets provided by the browser)
- CSS priority can be overridden by the !important modifier.



CSS properties

(Simplified) precedence rules



- 1. First break ties by origin and importance:
 - Transition declarations (used for animation, not covered)
 - Important user agent declarations
 - · Important user declarations
 - Important author declarations
 - · Normal author declarations
 - · Normal user declarations
 - Normal user agent declarations
- 2. If still tied, then judge on specificity:
 - Inline styles > style sheet styles
 - · Number of IDs in selector
 - Number of classes, attributes and pseudo-classes in selector
 - Number of type and pseudo-elements in selector
- 3. If still tied, then choose whichever selector appears last.

Full rules available at: https://www.w3.org/TR/css-cascade-3/

Property groups



• There are many, many CSS properties and the list is continually growing.

CSS Property Groups

- Color
- Background and Borders

· The basic ones we will cover are:

- Basic Box
- Flexible Box
- Text
- Text Decoration
- Writing Modes

 text · background · borders the box model · colors tables lists

- Table
- · Lists and Counters
- Animation
- Transform
- Transition Basic User Interface

- Paged Media
- Generated Content Filter Effects
- · Image/Replaced Content
- Masking
- Speech

Font properties



- font-size values: a number or a name, such as smaller, xx-large, etc.
- font-style-values: italic, normal
- font-weight degrees of boldness
 - can specify as one of: bolder, lighter, bold, normal
 - can specify as a multiple of 100 (100 900)
- font.
 - For specifying a list of font properties at the same time
 - font: bolder 14pt Arial Helvetica
 - Order must be style, weight, size, name(s)
- text-decoration values: line-through, overline, underline, none
- letter-spacing values: any number

Text alignment



- The text-indent property allows indentation:
 - Takes either a length or a % value
- The text-align property has 4 possible values:
 - left (the default), center, right, or justify
- Sometimes we want text to flow around another element the float property
 - The float property has the possible values, left, right, and none (the default)
 - If we have an element we want on the right, with text flowing on its left, we use the default text-align value (left) for the text and the right value for float on the element we want on the right

- Some text with the default alignment - left



List properties



- The list-style-type property sets the marker type used for elements.
- When set on the / element, the style applies to all elements in the list.
- When set on the individual element it applies only to that element.
- · Possible values:
 - Unordered list: disc, square, circle, none etc.
 - Ordered list: decimal, upper-alpha, upper-roman, etc.

```
<IDDCTYPE html>
chtml>
chtml>
chody>
clastyle = 'tist-style-type: square">
<!lt Raindrops on roses </!i>
<!lt Bright copper kettles </li>
<!lt Stylee "list-style-type: upper-alpha">
warm woolen mittens

<!lt stylee "list-style-type:upper-roman">
Brown paper packages

<! Is tylee "list-style-type:upper-roman">
cli stylee "list-style-type:upper-roman"
```

Colours



- The color property specifies the foreground colour of element
- There are three colour collections:
 - 1. There is a set of 16 colours that are guaranteed to be displayable by all graphical browsers on all colour monitors:

Name	Hexadecimal Code	Name	Hexadecimal Code
black	000000	green	008000
silver	C0C0C0	lime	00FF00
gray	808080	olive	808000
white	FFFFFF	yellow	FFFF00
maroon	800000	navy	000080
red	FF0000	blue	0000FF
purple	800080	teal	008080
fuchsia	FF00FF	aqua	00FFFF

- 2. There is a much larger set of 140 named colours supported by all major browsers:
 - https://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_colors.php
- 3. Any one of 16 million different colours
 - #000000, #000001, #000002, . . . , #FFFFFE, #FFFFFF

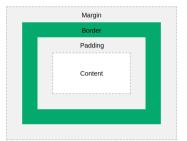


CSS layout

The Box model



- Every element is essentially laid out as four boxes which is known as the box model.
- It is used to control the spacing and borders around an element on the page.



• The content is where the actual element is rendered.

The Box model – margin and border



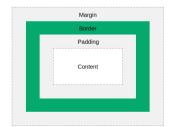
- The margin of an element is the space between its border and its neighboring element.
- The margin is always transparent, and its size can be set with margin, margin-left, margin-top, ...
- The border of an element can be set using the following properties:
- border-style: none (default), dotted, dashed, etc.
- border-width: thin, medium (default), thick, or a length value in pixels
- border-color: any colour



The Box model - padding and sizes



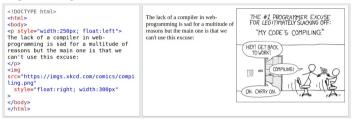
- The <u>padding</u> of an element is the space between its border and its content.
 - The margin is always transparent, and its size can be set with padding, paddingleft, padding-top, ...
- When you set the width and height properties of an element with CSS, you (normally) just set the width and height of the content area.
- To calculate the total width and height of an element, you must also include the padding and borders.
- The margin property also affects the total space that the box will take up on the page, but the margin is not included in the actual size of the box. The box's total width and height stops at the border.



Document flow and the float property



- By default, elements are laid out according to the normal flow of the document they
 appear sequentially above each other in the order they are declared.
- There are three ways of overriding the normal flow.
- 1. The float property
- The element is laid out according to the normal flow, then shifted to lie to the left or right of the previous element.
- There are three values: none, left, right, inherit
- · Used to e.g., have images and text on the same line.



Position property



- 2. The position property
 - Uses the *offset* properties: top, left, right, bottom
 - · There are five value:
 - static (default) go with the normal flow
 - relative the element is offset relative to its normal flow position, but the element is not removed from the flow.
 - absolute the element is offset relative to its most recently positioned ancestor. The element is removed entirely from normal flow.
 - fixed the element is offset relative to the fixed viewport. The element is removed entirely from normal flow.
 - sticky switches between relative and fixed depending on the scroll position.



Position property and frameworks



- 3. The display property determines how the element is treated in normal flow
 - There are ~20 possible values:
 - block, inline, flex, grid, inline-flex, etc.
 - · Won't go into detail here but see various tutorials online.



Laying out your webpage manually with raw CSS is <u>hard!</u> Furthermore you must consider how the webpage looks across many different screen types and sizes.

- A much more scalable way is to use a CSS framework which are libraries of CSS code allowing
 you to quickly build a visually appealing and responsive website.
- See next Lecture for more details.



Other

Vendor prefixes



A positive catalyst for the evolution to exciting technologies

"... force the vendors and the Working Group to work together to devise the tests necessary to determine interoperability. Those tests can then guide those who follow, helping them to achieve interoperable status much faster. They could literally ship the prefixed implementation in one public beta and drop the prefix in the next."

.foo {	
-webkit-border-radius: 10	px;
-moz-border-radius: 10px;	
border-radius: 10px;	
}	

WebKit	-webkit-	
Mozilla	-moz-	
Opera	-0-	
Konqueror	-khtml-	
Microsoft	-ms-	
Chrome	-chrome-	

CSS is boring...



You can build some amazing things with pure CSS:



https://codepen.io/r4ms3s/pen/gajVBG



https://codepen.io/stepan/pen/NWmqdW

Validating CSS



