COSI 152A

Web Application Development



JavaScript Basics



What is JavaScript?

- A lightweight programming language ("scripting language") used to make web pages interactive and dynamic.
- It is an object-oriented and event-driven language.
- NOT related to Java other than by name and some syntactic similarities



JavaScript syntax

- The syntax is like C and Java programming languages
 - But it also has some unique features, such as automatic semicolon insertion.



Running a JavaScript code

- JavaScript is a client-side scripting language that is executed on the web browser.
- Every browser has a JavaScript Engine which runs JavaScript code.
 - E.g., Chrome: V8
- Several ways are there we can write JavaScript code and then run it
 - On the browser console
 - In a HTML file
 - Outside the browser using Node.js



"Hello World!" JavaScript code

Let's write our first script displaying "Hello World!" on the console.



A JavaScript statement: alert

A JS command that pops up a dialog box with a message

```
alert("Hello World!");
```





Variables

Variables

- Variables are named values and can store any type of JavaScript value.
- Variables are declared with the var keyword (case sensitive)
 - Replaced by let and const with ES6
- Types are not specified, but JS does have types ("loosely typed")
 - Types: Number, Boolean, String, Object (Array, Function), Null, Undefined
 - Find out a variable's type by calling typeof

```
var name = expression;
var age = 32;
var weight = 127.4;
```



Using variables

 After you declare a variable, you can reference it by name elsewhere in your code.

```
let x = 100;
let y = x + 102;
console log(y);
```

Constants (ES6)

- Also known as "immutable variables"
 - cannot be re-assigned new content
- Always use const or let when declaring variables
 - If any doubt, use const

```
const name = expression;
let name = expression;

const age = 32;
let weight = 127.4;
```



Data Types

Data Types

- JavaScript is a dynamically-typed language
 - variables are not bound to a specific data type
 - variable types can change during runtime
- Here are the primary data types in JavaScript:
 - 1. Number
 - 2. String
 - 3. Boolean
 - 4. Undefined
 - 5. Null
 - 6. Symbol
 - 7. Object (Array, Function)

Number Type

- Numbers are values that can be used in mathematical operations.
- Integers and real numbers are the same type (no int vs. double)
- Many operators auto-convert types: "2" * 3 is 6

```
let enrollment = 99;
let medianGrade = 2.8;
let credits = 5 + 4 + (2 * 3);
```

String Type

- Strings are values made up of text and can contain letters, numbers, symbols, punctuation, and even emojis!
- Strings are contained within a pair of either single quotation marks "or double quotation marks ".
 - Both quotes represent Strings but be sure to choose one and STICK WITH IT.

```
const s = "Connie Client";
const s2 = 'Melvin Merchant'; // can use "" or ' '
```



String Properties and Methods

- Strings have their own built-in properties and methods.
- Here are some of the most common ones:
- Methods: toLowerCase(), toUpperCase(), trim(), substring(), charAt(), indexOf() etc.
- Properties: length

```
const s = "Connie Client";
let fName = s.substring(0, s.indexOf(" ")); // "Connie"
let len = s.length; // 13
```



Boolean Type

- A boolean value is one that can either be TRUE or FALSE.
- Anything that needs to be "on" or "off", "yes" or "no", "true" or "false", is a good fit for booleans.

```
const iLikeWebApps = true;
const ieIsGood = false;
```



Special types: undefined and null

- undefined: has been declared, but no value assigned
- null: exists, and was specifically assigned a value of null
- Reference error when try to evaluate a variable that has not been declared

```
let ned = null; // ned is null
const benson = 9; // benson's 9
let caroline; // caroline is undefined
alert(fred); // reference error, fred not declared
```

Arrays

- Arrays are containers that can hold other values.
 - the values inside an array are called elements
- Elements of an array can be any kind of value even other arrays.
- Size of an array is dynamic and can grow as needed.
- Two ways to declare and initialize an array:

```
let name = []; // empty array
name[index] = value; // store element

let name = [value, value, ..., value]; // pre-filled
```



Array methods and properties

 Arrays have their own built-in properties and methods. Here are some of the most common ones.

Methods:

- push(): adds an element to the array and returns the array's length.
- pop(): removes the last element in the array and returns that element's value.
- concat(): returns a new array that combines the values of two arrays.
- reverse(): returns a copy of the array in opposite order.

Properties:

length: length property stores the number of elements inside the array.

Function

- functions are reusable blocks of code that perform a specific task, taking some form of input and returning an output.
- Function declaration:

```
function name() {
  statement;
  ...
  statement;
}

function square(number) {
  return number* number;
}
```



Operators

OPERATORS

- Operators are the symbols between values that allow different operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication, and more.
- Common JavaScript operators are:
 - Arithmetic (+, -, *, /, %, ++, --)
 - Logical (&&, ||, !)
 - Relational (>, <, >=, <=, ==, !=, ===, !==)</p>
 - Assignment (=, +=, -=, *=, /=, %=)
 - Concatenation (+)
 - Grouping (())

OPERATORS

Many arithmetic operators auto-convert types:

Most relational operators auto-convert types:

=== and !== are strict equality tests (checks both type and value)

Concatenation with + :

Comments

- Identical to Java's comment syntax
- Recall: 4 comment syntaxes
 - HTML: <!-- comment -->
 - CSS/JS/PHP/Java: /* comment */
 - Java/JS/PHP: // comment

```
// single-line comment
/* multi-line comment */
```



Control Flow Statements



Control flow statements

- Statements that control the flow of execution
 - Conditional statements
 - Repetition statements



Conditional statements

- Let us choose which statement will be executed next.
 - "if" statements: if a condition is true, it's block of code is executed.
 - "else" statements: if the condition is false, another block of code is executed.
 - "else if" statements: add new conditions to an if statement.

```
if (condition) {
  statements;
}
```

```
if (condition) {
  statements;
} else {
  statements;
}
```

```
if (condition1) {
  statements;
} else if (condition2) {
  statements;
} else {
  statements;
}
```



Repetition statements

Repetition statements allow us to execute a statement multiple times.

```
for loop
                   for (initialization; condition; update) {
                    statements;
while loop
                   while (condition) {
                   statements;
do-while loop
                   do {
                   statements;
                   } while (condition);
```



Thank You!