CS 641, Haik Sahakian

Mobile Content Development

Readings and Assignments
Week 2

Environment Setup

The Command Line

❖ *The Mac OS Command Line.* Anyone new to the Mac Terminal and its commands should read this guide. http://blog.teamtreehouse.com/introduction-to-the-mac-os-x-command-line

❖ *The Windows Command Line.* Anyone new to the Windows Command Prompt and its commands should read this guide. http://news.softpedia.com/news/basic-guide-for-the-windows-command-prompt-494379.shtml

Trouble with Mac Gem Installs

If you're getting errors on your gem installs, the first thing to try is to update your Mac OS and XCode installations. If it's your first time installing XCode, you can do this from the App Store.

Once XCode is installed, run and quit it at least once so it can register itself with the OS. Then try your gem install again.

Trouble with Mac Gem Install Permissions

If you had permission errors when installing Compass on a Mac, please read these discussions of the issue:

* http://stackoverflow.com/questions/14607193/installing-gem-or-updating-rubygems-fails-with-permissions-error

* http://stackoverflow.com/questions/11643629/how-to-install-gems-without-sudo

* http://stackoverflow.com/questions/2119064/sudo-gem-install-or-gem-install-and-gem-locations

* https://github.com/Compass/compass/issues/2018

Trouble with Mac Gem Install Permissions

If you're getting permission errors on your Compass install, you can try the techniques on the previous page to fix it. I recommend avoiding sudo, as sudo will modify the copy of Ruby used by the OS. I suggest using a Ruby install manager like RVM.

If you're going to use sudo, the following seems to be the cleanest way, which specifies a different directory for the install:

sudo gem install -n /usr/local/bin compass

Compass Environment

It's important you have a Compass environment running for the next class. Every computer is different, and if your environment is not working, try Googling the error messages you're receiving to troubleshoot the problem.

Use Google, Wikipedia, online tutorials and code samples to help setup your environment. If you're having a problem, it's very likely that someone else has had it too, and that the answer is online.

Getting Quickly Up to Speed On

HTML and CSS

HTML: Introductory Videos

If you're new to HTML and CSS, this section of this week's assignment is for you. If you're experienced with web development you can skip the next 3 pages.

I think the best way to get up to speed is to watch some short videos, then view more detailed overviews, then check reference sites as needed.

The CSS video will make more sense if you watch the HTML videos first. These videos by Jake Wright are each 12 minutes in length, and are excellent.

HTML: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWPMSSsVdPk

HTML part 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJ13lX20FqU

CSS: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0afZj1G0BIE

HTML: Detailed Tutorials

Code Academy is a well known and excellent site for learning HTML. However, W3Schools may be much faster, as you can easily skip parts you have already figured out. It's older and not interactive, but for programmers I think it will usually be better as I think you'll learn the basics quickly just by looking at its examples.

W3Schools: http://www.w3schools.com/html/html_intro.asp

Code Academy: http://www.codecademy.com/en/tracks/web

HTML: Reference

Mozilla's site below is nicely organized and full of useful information. MSDN and W3Schools are excellent sites too.

HTML: https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element#S

CSS: https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/CSS/Reference

Readings

Readings: SCSS

❖ *Installing Compass.* The installation page from Compass covers installation of Compass as well as its configuration with a config.rb file. 15 minutes. (Same as last week so you may already have done this). http://compass-style.org/install/

❖ *How SASS and SCSS Works.* A 10 minute introduction to SASS and SCSS. http://unmatchedstyle.com/news/a-newbs-guide-to-syntactically-awesome-stylesheets-sass-part-1.php

❖ *Compass Examples.* Browse this page to view the various Compass features, and the CSS that they generate. A great way to get started writing SCSS is to copy one of the smaller examples here as your starting SCSS file, and then modify it. 5 minutes. http://compass-style.org/examples/

Readings: Layout

❖ *Width, Height, Position, and Float.* A quick introduction to sizing and positioning blocks of content with CSS. The concepts introduced here are used in many other articles we'll be reading. 10 minutes.
http://www.dev-hq.net/html-css/10--width-height-position-float

❖ *Media Queries.* A concise introduction to CSS media queries. We will use media queries in the next class. 15 minutes.
http://www.javascriptkit.com/dhtmltutors/cssmediaqueries.shtml

Assignments

Assignments

❖ Ensure your SASS and Compass libraries have been installed successfully. To check if installation was successful, type "compass version" on the command line.

❖ Ensure an image editor has been installed on your laptop. We will be using it in the next class. To check if installation was successful, check you can edit an image from the internet and then save it.

Assignments

Please create a new HTML page, in a new directory, that uses SCSS and Compass to include the following, at a minimum:

❖ Color gradients

❖ Both text and box shadows

❖ Rounded corners on DIVs

❖ Transitions

❖ Your own SCSS variables

❖ Your own SCSS mixin

As always, please post the URL of your page to the Discussion Board in Blackboard. Since the Pace webpage server can't handle serving scss files, please also paste your scss file into your Discussion thread.

Tips

❖ Don't forget to include the Compass import statement in your SCSS file!
@import "compass";

❖ As you read, remember everyone calls SCSS "SASS". Almost no-one actually uses the real SASS.

❖ If Compass runs but doesn't do anything, you may be missing the config.rb file in your project to let it know where your SCSS files are and where its CSS should go. To keep things simple, you can set all the directories to the current directory: ".".
Example file: https://gist.github.com/nathansmith/1179395
Tutorial: http://www.gayadesign.com/diy/how-to-start-using-sass-and-compass-in-10-minutes/ (in section 3).

Tips

- ❖ The source code from class is at:
  http://webpage.pace.edu/hsahakian/examples/class/

- ❖ An SCSS example I'd made earlier today is at:
  http://webpage.pace.edu/hsahakian/examples/stylin/

- ❖ The Pace webpage server can't handle SCSS type file downloads so I've uploaded ZIP files too.

- ❖ Office hours are next Wednesday from 5 to 7pm. Luna's there from 5-6 and I'm there from 6-7.