

LECTURE08: ERROR HANDLING AND CSS

CS418/518: WEB PROGRAMMING

BY DR. JIAN WU

COURTESY: DR. JUSTIN BRUNELLE



ERROR HANDLING AND INPUT VALIDATION

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WHY DO WE NEED INPUT VALIDATION?

- Typos
- Malicious input, e.g., XSS vulnerability
- We'll look at validating:
 - Simple string values
 - Integer values
 - Formatted text input

SERVER VS. CLIENT

- Client-side security == no security
 - Clients have full control of the browser
 - Malicious or broken clients
 - Do not rely on client-side validation
- JavaScript (client-side) might be disabled
- Place a server-side validator for all input

VARIABLE HANDLING FUNCTIONS

- `isset()` : **determine if a variable is declared and is not NULL**
- `empty()` : **determine whether a variable is empty**
- `is_numeric()` : **finds whether a variable is a number or a numeric string**
- `is_bool()` : **finds out whether a variable is a boolean**
- `is_array()` : **finds whether a variable is an array**
- `is_object()` : **finds whether a variable is an object**
- **More at: <https://www.php.net/manual/en/ref.var.php>**

DIE() FUNCTION

The die() function prints a message and exits the current script.

```
<?php  
if(!file_exists("/tmp/test.txt")) {  
    die("File not found");  
} else {  
    $file = fopen("/tmp/test.txt", "r");  
    print "Open file sucessfully";  
}  
// Test of the code here.  
?>
```

diefunc.php

The argument is optional.
You can just call die();

ordiefunc.php

```
<?php  
$url = "https://www.example.com/";  
fopen($url, "r")  
or die("Can't connect!");  
?>
```

CUSTOM ERROR FUNCTION

- Syntax

- `error_function(error_level,error_message, error_file,error_line, error_context);`

Required — The following parameters are required	
error_level	Specifies the level of the error, as an integer. This corresponds to the appropriate error level constant (E_ERROR, E_WARNING, and so on)
error_message	Specifies the error message as a string

error_file	Specifies the filename of the script file in which the error occurred, as a string
error_line	Specifies the line number on which the error occurred, as a string
error_context	Specifies an array containing all the variables and their values that existed at the time the error occurred. Useful for debugging

POSSIBLE ERROR LEVELS

Error level	Value	Description
most important error levels	E_ERROR	1 A fatal run-time error, that can't be recovered from. The execution of the script is stopped immediately.
	E_WARNING	2 A run-time warning. It is non-fatal and most errors tend to fall into this category. The execution of the script is not stopped.
	E_PARSE	4 The compile-time parse error. Parse errors should only be generated by the parser.
	E_NOTICE	8 A run-time notice indicating that the script encountered something that could possibly an error, although the situation could also occur when running a script normally.
	E_CORE_ERROR	16 Fatal errors that occur during PHP's initial start-up.
For other errors, see: https://www.tutorialspoint.com/php/php_error_handling.htm		

CUSTOM ERROR FUNCTION EXAMPLE

```
<?php  
// Error handler function  
function customError($errno, $errstr){  
    echo "<b>custom Error:</b> [$errno] $errstr";  
}  
  
// Set error handler  
set_error_handler("customError"); ←  
  
// Trigger error  
echo($test);  
?>
```

handleerror.php

We must tell PHP to use this function to handle errors.
Here, we set `customError()` to handle all `errors`
But you can set it to handle specific types of errors

TRIGGER AN ERROR

- In a script where users can input data, it is useful to trigger errors when an illegal input occurs. In PHP, this is done by the `trigger_error(message, type)` function.
- `trigger_error()` can be used anywhere you wish in a script, and by adding the optional `type` parameter, you can specify what error level is triggered.
-

```
<?php  
$test=2;  
if ($test>=1) {  
    trigger_error("Value must be 1 or below");  
}  
?>
```

triggererror.php

Note: this is not an echo statement, so the errors are not shown on the webpage. The errors are in web server logs.

TRIGGER ERROR EXAMPLE

triggererror2.php

```
<?php  
//error handler function  
function customError($errno, $errstr) {  
    echo "<b>Error:</b> [$errno] $errstr<br>";  
    echo "Ending Script";  
    die();  
}  
  
//set error handler  
set_error_handler("customError",E_USER_WARNING);  
  
//trigger error  
$test=2;  
if ($test>=1) {  
    trigger_error("Value must be 1 or below",E_USER_WARNING);  
}  
?>
```

Use `customError` to handle `E_USER_WARNING` errors only.
Change this to `E_USER_ERROR` and see what happens

Other types of errors

- `E_USER_ERROR` - Fatal user-generated run-time error. Execution of the script is halted
- `E_USER_WARNING` - Non-fatal user-generated run-time warning.
- `E_USER_NOTICE`

SEND ERROR MESSAGES BY EMAIL

```
<?php  
//error handler function  
  
function customError($errno, $errstr) {  
    echo "<b>Error:</b> [$errno] $errstr<br>";  
    echo "Webmaster has been notified";  
    error_log("Error: [$errno] $errstr",1,  
    "someone@example.com","From: webmaster@example.com");  
}  
  
//set error handler  
set_error_handler("customError",E_USER_WARNING);  
  
//trigger error  
$test=2;  
if ($test>=1) {  
    trigger_error("Value must be 1 or below",E_USER_WARNING);  
}  
?>
```

`error_log()` function can send error logs to a specified file or a remote destination

This should not be used with all errors. Regular errors should be logged on the server using the default PHP logging system.

GENERATE ERRORS ON THE SAME PAGE

Instead of quitting the application instantly, a common practice is to concatenate all errors and print them together

samepageerror.php

```
1 <?php
2 if (empty($var1)) {
3     $errors .= "var1 should not be empty<br>";
4 }
5 if (!is_numeric($var2)) {
6     $errors .= "var2 should be a number<br>";
7 }
8 // check all anticipated error conditions ...
9 if (empty($errors)){
10     echo "No errors found!";
11 } else {
12     internal_error_function($errors);
13 }
14
15 function internal_error_function ($errors) {
16     echo "Errors found: ". $errors;
17     // provide link to start over
18 }
19 ?>
```

URI WITH ERROR IN AN ARGUMENT

```
<?php
if (empty($var1)) {
    $errors .= "$var1 should not be empty";
}
if (!is_numeric($var2)) {
    $errors .= "$var2 should be a number";
}
// check all anticipated error conditions
if (empty($errors)) {
    echo "I am error free!";
} else {
    $errors = urlencode($errors);
    header("Location: https://www.google.com");
}
?>
```

- If an error is made, direct me to Google.

urlencode: see next page

ENCODE URLs

- RFC1738 (replaced by RFC3986) requires “unsafe” and “reserved” characters to be encoded in URLs
 - Reserved examples: “/”, “：“, and “?”
 - Unsafe examples: [space], “%”, “\$”
 - Why are they called “unsafe characters”? Because they may lead to wrongly parsed URLs. See more at <https://perishablepress.com/stop-using-unsafe-characters-in-urls/>
- PHP `urlencode()`, `urldecode()`
- More information, examples, and rationales:
<http://www.blooberry.com/indexdot/html/topics/urlencoding.htm>

INPUT VALIDATION EXAMPLES: REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

- To do formatted text (e.g., date) validation, use regular expressions. Example:
 - DD-MM-YYYY format for date
 - `([0-9]{2})-([0-9]{2})-([0-9]{4})`
 - 2 digits between 0-9
 - “-” character
 - 2 digits between 0-9
 - “-” character
 - 4 digits between 0-9

REGULAR EXPRESSIONS (REGEX)

```
if ( !preg_match("/([0-9]{2})-([0-9]{2})-([0-9]{4})/",  
$_POST['movie_release'], $reldatepart) )  
{  
    $error .= "Please enter a date with the dd-mm-yyyy format";  
}
```

pseudo-code:

- if `$_POST['movie_release']` is `31-05-1969` then:
 - `$reldatepart[0]` = `31-05-1969`
 - `$reldatepart[1]` = `31`
 - `$reldatepart[2]` = `05`
 - `$reldatepart[3]` = `1969`

DATE TIME

- Change the date string into a timestamp (to store in the database) using `mkttime(hour, min, seconds, month, day, year)`
 - If valid date, returns the number of seconds since January 1, 1970
 - If not a valid date (e.g., 99-99-9999), return -1

continued from the last example:

```
$movie_release = mkttime (0, 0, 0,  
$reldatepart['2'], $reldatepart['1'],  
$reldatepart['3']);
```

WORKING WITH MYSQL

- UNIX_TIMESTAMP()

- Takes YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS format string
- Creates a timestamp
- Continued from the last example:

```
$reldate = $reldatepart['3'] . "-" . $reldatepart['2'] . "-" .
$reldatepart['1'] . " 00:00:00";
$sql = "INSERT INTO movie_main (release_date) " . "VALUES
(UNIX_TIMESTAMP('$reldate'))";
```

XSS VULNERABILITY

- **Cross Site Scripting (XSS)**
- Malicious scripts are injected into otherwise benign and trusted websites.
- Watch this youtube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhOcAZJp81s>



HTML IMAGES

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HTML TAG

- How to insert an image

```

```

- The images can be jpg, jpeg, gif, png, etc. Most browsers do not support TIFF. [The img element](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTML/Element/img)

- Images are not technically inserted into a web page; images are linked to web pages. The `` tag creates a holding space for the referenced image.
- src - the path to the image
- alt - an alternate text for the image, if the image cannot be displayed

Example: showimage.html

Change the path to other places and see if it works.



SPECIFY IMAGE SIZES IN PIXELS

```

```

- The width and height attribute specifies the width of an image, in pixels.
- Always specify both the **height** and **width** attributes for images for the browser to reserve the space.
- Rescale the image with a program before using it on a page.
 - Image resizer for Windows: <https://www.bricelam.net/ImageResizer/>
Image resizer for Mac: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/image-resizer-resize-photos/id1188274404?mt=12>
 - Image resizers for Linux: ImageMagick: <https://imagemagick.org/index.php>

ADD A HYPERLINK TO AN IMAGE

```
<a href=" https://www.cs.odu.edu/~jwu/ ">  
  
</a>
```

- Example: imagehyperlink.html

ALIGN IMAGES

```





```

- Example: `imagealign.html`
- Note: HTML inline-block by default.

ADD AN IMAGE BORDER

```

```

<https://www.html.am/html-codes/image-codes/html-image-borders.cfm>

- Example: imageborder.html

ADD MARGINS TO IMAGES

```

```

```

```

- Example: [htmlmargin.html](#)

INSERT IMAGES FROM ANOTHER FOLDER OR A URL

```


```

- Example: `imageexternal.html`

CREATE AN IMAGE MAP

```
  
  
<map name="workmap">  
  <area shape="rect" coords="34,44,270,350" alt="Computer" href="computer.htm">  
  <area shape="rect" coords="290,172,333,250" alt="Phone" href="phone.htm">  
  <area shape="circle" coords="337,300,44" alt="Cup of coffee" href="coffee.htm">  
</map>
```

- Example: `imagemap.html`



PHP GD AND IMAGE FUNCTIONS

- <https://www.php.net/manual/en/ref.image.php>
- GD image library
- `getimagesize()`: Get the size of an image
- `imagejpeg()`: Output image to browser or file

CREATE AN IMAGE GRID

- https://www.w3schools.com/howto/tryit.asp?filename=tryhow_js_image_grid

CSS



CSS (CASCADING STYLE SHEETS)

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```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3     <head>
4         <meta charset="utf-8">
5         <title>My Web Page</title>
6         <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="style.css">
7     </head>
8     <body>
9         <header>
10            <h1>My Web Page</h1> <h2>Home to my stuff</h2>
11        </header>
12        <nav>
13            <ul>
14                <li><a href="#section1">Section 1</a></li>
15                <li><a href="#section2">Section 2</a></li>
16                <li><a href="#section3">Section 3</a></li>
17            </ul>
18        </nav>
19        <section id="section1">
20            <h2>Welcome to Section 1!</h2>
21            <p>A section of content!</p>
22        </section>
23    </body>
24 </html>
```

import a style.css file that specifies the formats of text inside certain blocks, such as text inside certain HTML tags.

My Web Page

Home to my stuff

- [Section 1](#)
- [Section 2](#)
- [Section 3](#)

Welcome to Section 1!

A section of content!

HTML HEAD

```
<head>
  <meta charset="utf-8">
  <title>My Web Page</title>
  <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="style.css">
</head>
```

[more about the link tag](#)

- Reference to stylesheets (CSS), external or inline
- The HTML <meta> tag is used for declaring metadata for the HTML document.
- `charset` specifies the character encoding used by the document. This is called a character encoding declaration.

THE MOTIVATION OF USING CSS IS TO SEPARATE CONTENT AND STYLE

- Use HTML for content/structure
 - Align the content/structure with an appropriate tag
 - E.g., <nav> for navigational items
- Use CSS for styles, such as position, color, etc.
 - Only tabular data in tables!
- Use PHP or JavaScript to define behaviors

DOM

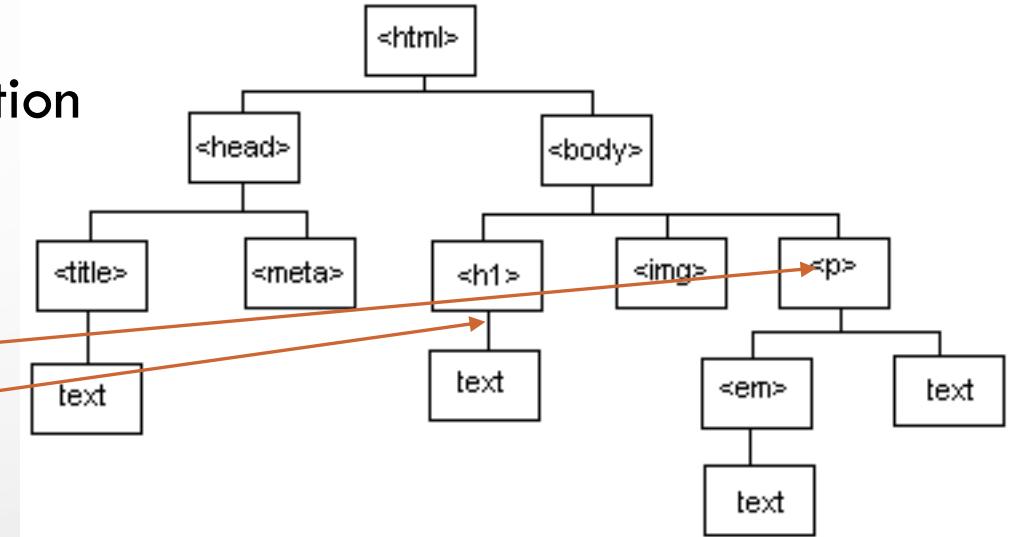
- DOM: Document object model
 - Defines STRUCTURE of an HTML representation
 - Tree-based
 - Basis for CSS and Javascript

- CSS:

```
p {background-color: blue;}  
section > h1 {font-size: 24px;}
```

- JavaScript:

```
var navs = document.getElementsByTagName("nav")
```



DOM ATTRIBUTES – ID

- **HTML definition – ID**

```
<h1 id="myHeader">My Header</h1>
```

- **CSS selector**

- The syntax for id selector: write a hash character (#) character, followed by an id name. Then, define the CSS properties within curly braces {}.
- ```
#myHeader {color:red;}
```

- **JavaScript**

```
var myP = document.getElementById('myHeader');
```

- The HTML id attribute is used to specify a unique id for an HTML element.
- You cannot have more than one element with the same id in an HTML document.
- The id attribute is used to point to a specific style declaration in a style sheet. It is also used by JavaScript to access and manipulate the element with the specific id.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<style>
#myHeader {
 background-color: lightblue;
 color: black;
 padding: 40px;
 text-align: center;
}
</style>
</head>
<body>

<h1 id="myHeader">My Header</h1>

</body>
</html>
```

# DOM ATTRIBUTES – CLASS

- **HTML definition**

```
<p class="specialElements">Lorem Ipsum</p>
<div class="anotherGroup">Another group's contents</div>
Dolor Sit Amet
```

- **CSS selector**

```
.specialElements{text-decoration: underline;}
```

- **JavaScript reference**

```
var mySpecialElements=document.getElementsByClassName('specialElements');
var secondSpecialElement=specialElements[1]; //note the array syntax
```

- The HTML class attribute is used for specifying a class for an HTML element.
- Multiple HTML elements can share the same class.
- The class attribute is often used to point to a class name in a style sheet. It can also be used by a JavaScript to access and manipulate elements with the specific class name.

# CSS SELECTORS

- A CSS rule is made up of a **selector** and several **declarations**. A declaration consists of **property and value**:

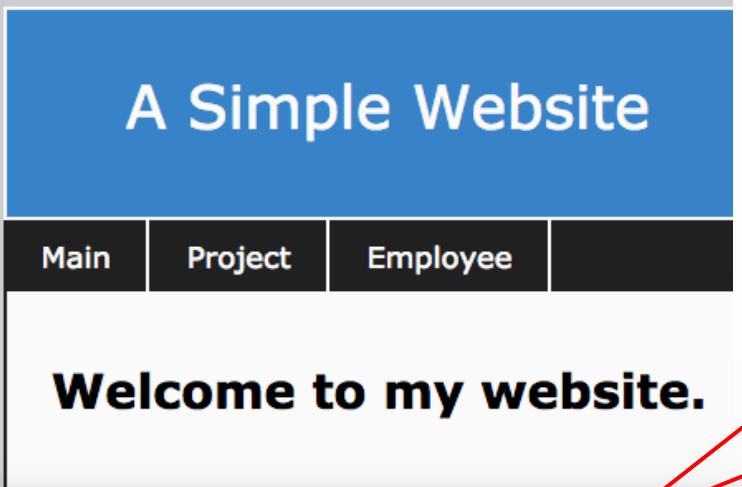
```
selector{
 property: value;
 property: value;

}
```

- A **selector** is often an element of HTML identifier, such as an ID or a class.
- **Properties and values** tell an HTML element how to display.
- For more CSS selectors, see [http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css\\_selectors.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/css_selectors.asp)

# HOW TO INTERPRET CSS FILES

More about  
[CSS border property](#)  
[CSS border-top](#)  
[CSS border-bottom](#)



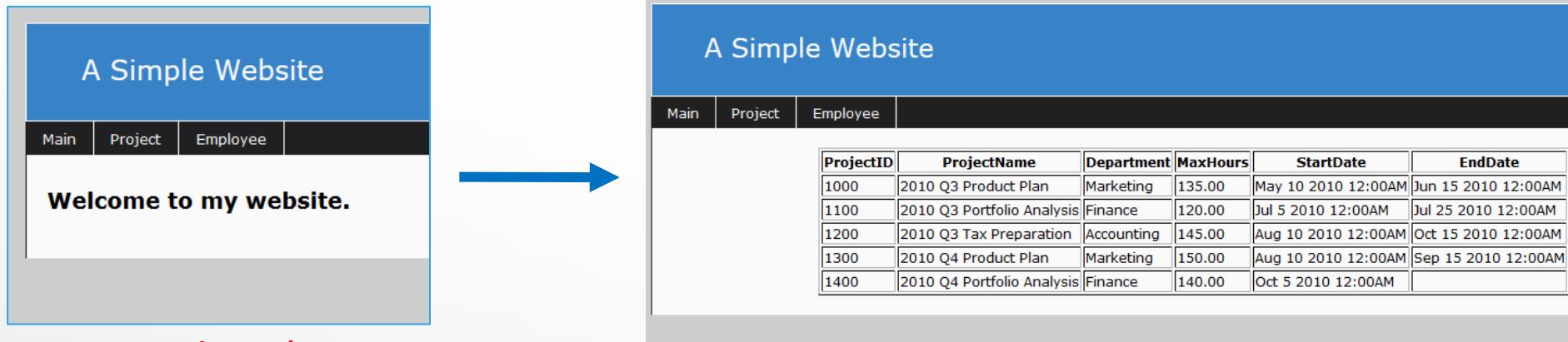
```
<html>
 <head>
 <title>A Simple Website</title>
 <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-15" />
 <link rel="stylesheet" href="styles.css" />
 </head>
 <div id="conteneur">
 <div id="header">A Simple Website</div>
 <?php include 'navbar.php'; ?>
 <div id="centre">
 <h1>Welcome to my website.</h1>
 </div>
 </div>
</html>
```

main.php

styles.css

```
1 #centre {
2 border:1px solid #202020;
3 border-bottom:0;
4 border-top:0;
5 color:#000;
6 padding:1.5em;
7 }
8
9 #conteneur {
10 background-color:#fafafa;
11 margin:1em 10%;
12 min-width:60em;
13 position:absolute;
14 width:80%;
15 }
16
17 #haut {
18 background-color:#202020;
19 height:2.4em;
20 max-height:2.4em;
21 }
22
23 #header {
24 background-color:#3882C7;
25 border:1px solid #fafafa;
26 color:#fafafa;
27 font-size:2em;
28 height:2.5em;
29 padding-left:2em;
30 padding-top:1em;
31 }
```

# A SIMPLE EXAMPLE



main.php



shared

```
1 #centre {
2 border:1px solid #202020;
3 border-bottom:0;
4 border-top:0;
5 color:#000;
6 padding:1.5em;
7 }
8
9 #conteneur {
10 background-color:#fafafa;
11 margin:1em 10%;
12 min-width:60em;
13 position:absolute;
14 width:80%;
15 }
16
17 #haut {
18 background-color:#202020;
19 }
```

styles.css

project.php



shared

checkout the folder website/ for source code

# YOU CAN REDEFINE THE STYLE OF AN HTML TAG WITH CSS

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<style>
h1 {
 color: blue;
 font-family: verdana;
 font-size: 300%;
}
p {
 color: red;
 font-family: courier;
 font-size: 160%;
}
</style>
</head>
<body>

<h1>This is a heading</h1>
<p>This is a paragraph.</p>

</body>
</html>
```

# PRECEDENCE OF CSS OPERATIONS

- **Inline style > id > class > element**

HTML Code	CSS Code	Effect
<p>Hello</p>	p {color: red;}	Hello
<p class="test">Hello</p>	p {color: red;} [Element level] p.test {color blue; background-color: yellow;} [class level]	Hello
<p class="test" id="myP">Hello</p>	p {color: red;} [Element level] p.test {color blue; background-color: yellow;} [class level] p#myP {background-color: orange;} [id level]	Hello
<p class="test" id="myP" style="color: white;">Hello</p> [inline level]	p {color: red;} [Element level] p.test {color blue; background-color: yellow;} [class level] p#myP {background-color: orange;} [id level]	Hello
<p style="color: white; id="myP"> Hello <span>World</span><em>!</em></p>	p#myP {background-color: orange;} [id level] p span {background-color: purple} [element level]	Hello World!



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**BACKUP SLIDES BEYOND THIS POINT**

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