Introduction to Web Programming

Lecture 3: CSS Properties

3.1: Basic CSS

- 3.1: Basic CSS
- 3.2: CSS Properties

The bad way to produce styles

- tags such as b, i, u, and font are discouraged in strict HTML
 - Why is this bad?

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS): <1ink>

```
<head>
...
  <link href="filename" type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" />
...
  </head>
```

```
<!-- Clink href="style.css" type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" />
```

- CSS describes the appearance and layout of information on a web page
 - (as opposed to HTML, which describes the content of the page)
- can be embedded in HTML or placed into separate . css file (preferred)

Basic CSS rule syntax

```
selector {
   property: value;
   property: value;
   ...
   property: value;
}
p {
   font-family: sans-serif;
   color: red;
}
```

- a CSS file consists of one or more rules
- a rule's **selector** specifies HTML element(s) and applies style **properties**
 - a selector of * selects all elements

CSS comments: /* ... */

```
/* This is a comment.
  It can span many lines in the CSS file. */
p {
  color: red;
  background-color: aqua;
}
```

- CSS (like HTML) is usually not commented as much as code such as Java
- the // single-line comment style is NOT supported in CSS
- the <!-- ... --> HTML comment style is also NOT supported in CSS

CSS properties for colors

```
color: red;
background-color: yellow;
}
This paragraph uses the style above.
```

property	description
color	color of the element's text
background-color	color that will appear behind the element

Specifying colors

```
p { color: red; }
h2 { color: rgb(128, 0, 196); }
h4 { color: #FF8800; }

This paragraph uses the first style above.

This h2 uses the second style above.

This h4 uses the third style above.
```

- color names: aqua, black, blue, fuchsia, gray, green, lime, maroon, navy, olive, purple, red, silver, teal, white (white), yellow
- RGB codes: red, green, and blue values from 0 (none) to 255 (full)
- hex codes: RGB values in base-16 from 00 (0, none) to FF (255, full)

Grouping styles

```
p, h1, h2 {
   color: green;
}
h2 {
   background-color: yellow;
}
This paragraph uses the above style.
This h2 uses the above styles.
```

- a style can select multiple elements separated by commas
- the individual elements can also have their own styles (like h2 above)

CSS properties for fonts

property	description
font-family	which font will be used
font-size	how large the letters will be drawn
font-style	used to enable/disable italic style
font-weight	used to enable/disable bold style
Complete list of font properties	

font-family

```
font-family: Georgia;

h2 {
  font-family: "Courier New";
}

This paragraph uses the first style above.

This h2 uses the second style above.
```

• enclose multi-word font names in quotes

More about font-family

```
p {
   font-family: Garamond, "Times New Roman", serif;
}
This paragraph uses the above style.
```

- · can specify multiple fonts from highest to lowest priority
- generic font names: serif, sans-serif, cursive, fantasy, monospace
- if the first font is not found on the user's computer, the next is tried
- generally should specify similar fonts
- placing a generic font name at the end of your font-family value ensures that every computer will use a valid font

font-size

```
font-size: 14pt;
}
This paragraph uses the style above.
```

- units: pixels (px) vs. point (pt) vs. m-size (em) 16px, 16pt, 1. 16em
- vague font sizes: xx-small, x-small, small, medium, large, x-large, XX-large, smaller, larger
- percentage font sizes, e.g.: 90%, 120%
- pt specifies number of *point*, where a point is 1/72 of an inch onscreen
- px specifies a number of pixels on the screen
- em specifies number of *m-widths*, where 1 em is equal to the font's current size

font-weight, font-style

```
font-weight: bold;
font-style: italic;
}
This paragraph uses the style above.
```

• either of the above can be set to normal to turn them off (e.g. headings)

3.2: CSS Properties

- 3.1: Basic CSS
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CSS properties for text

property	description
text-align	alignment of text within its element
text-decoration	decorations such as underlining
text-indent	indents the first letter of each paragraph
text-shadow	a colored shadow near an existing piece of text
line-height, word-spacing, letter-spacing	gaps between the various portions of the text
Complete list of text properties	

text-align

```
blockquote { text-align: justify; }
h2 { text-align: center; }

The Emperor's Quote

[TO LUKE SKYWALKER] The alliance... will die. As will your friends. Good, I can feel your anger. I am unarmed. Take your weapon. Strike me down with all
```

• can be left, right, center, or justify (which widens all full lines of the element so that they occupy its entire width)

of your hatred and your journey towards the dark side will be complete.

text-decoration

```
text-decoration: underline;

This paragraph uses the style above.
```

- can also be overline, line-through, blink, or none
- effects can be combined:

text-decoration: overline underline;

text-shadow 5

```
p {
  font-weight: bold;
  text-shadow: -2px 5px gray;
}
This paragraph uses the style above.
```

• shadow is specified as an X-offset, a Y-offset, and an optional color

The list-style-type property

```
ol { list-style-type: lower-roman; }
```

Possible values:

```
i. none: No marker
ii. disc (default), circle, square
iii. decimal: 1, 2, 3, etc.
iv. decimal-leading-zero: 01, 02, 03, etc.
v. lower-roman: i, ii, iii, iv, v, etc.
vi. upper-roman: I, II, III, IV, V, etc.
vii. lower-alpha: a, b, c, d, e, etc.
viii. upper-alpha: A, B, C, D, E, etc.
ix. lower-greek: alpha, beta, gamma, etc.
x. others: hebrew, armenian, georgian, cjk-ideographic, hiragana, katakana, hiragana-iroha, katakana-iroha
```

CSS properties for backgrounds

property	description
background-color	color to fill background
background-image	image to place in background
background-position	placement of bg image within element
background-repeat	whether/how bg image should be repeated
background-attachment	whether bg image scrolls with page
background-size	how large the background appears behind the element
background	shorthand to set all background properties

background-image

```
body {
   background-image: url("images/draft.jpg");
}
This is the first paragraph
This is the second paragraph...
It occupies 2 lines
```

• background image/color fills the element's content area

background-repeat

```
body {
  background-image: url("images/draft.jpg");
  background-repeat: repeat-x;
}
This is the first paragraph
This is the second paragraph...
It occupies 2 lines
```

• can be repeat (default), repeat-x, repeat-y, or no-repeat

background-position

```
body {
  background-image: url("images/draft.jpg");
  background-repeat: no-repeat;
  background-position: 370px 20px;
}

This is the first paragraph

This is the second paragraph...
It occupies 2 lines
```

- value consists of two tokens, each of which can be top, left, right, bottom, center, a percentage, or a length value in px, pt, etc.
- value can be negative to shift left/up by a given amount

Body styles

```
body {
  font-size: 16px;
}
```

- to apply a style to the entire body of your page, write a selector for the body element
- saves you from manually applying a style to each element

Styles that conflict

```
body { color: green; }
p, h1, h2 { color: blue; font-style: italic; }
h2 { color: red; background-color: yellow; }

This paragraph uses the first style above.

This heading uses both styles above.
```

- when two styles set conflicting values for the same property, the latter style takes precedence
- (later we will learn about more specific styles that can override more general styles)

Embedding style sheets: <style> (BAD!)

- CSS code can be embedded within the head of an HTML page
- this is bad style; DO NOT DO THIS (why?)

Inline styles: the style attribute (BAD!)

```
style="font-family: sans-serif; color: red;">
This is a paragraph
This is a paragraph

This is a paragraph
```

- higher precedence than embedded or linked styles
- used for one-time overrides and styling a particular element
- this is bad style; DO NOT DO THIS (why?)

Content vs. presentation

- HTML is for **content**; *what* is on the page (heading; list; code; etc.)
- CSS is for **presentation**; how to display the page (bold; centered; 20px margin; etc.)
- keeping content separate from presentation is a very important web design principle
- If the HTML contains no styles, its entire appearance can be changed by swapping . css files
- see also: CSS Zen Garden

Cascading style sheets

- it's called Cascading Style Sheets because the properties of an element *cascade* together in this order:
 - browser's default styles (reference)
 - external style sheet files (in a link> tag)
 - internal style sheets (in a \style \right) tag in the page header)
 - inline style (the style attribute of an HTML element)

Inheriting styles (explanation)

```
body { font-family: sans-serif; background-color: yellow; }
p { color: red; background-color: aqua; }
a { text-decoration: overline underline; }
h2 { font-weight: bold; text-align: center; }
```

This is a heading.

A styled paragraph. Previous slides are available on the web site.

- a bulleted list
- when multiple styles apply to an element, they are inherited
- a more tightly matching rule can override a more general inherited rule
- not all properties are inherited (notice link's color above)

CSS pseudo-classes

```
a:link { color: #FF0000; } /* unvisited link */
a:visited { color: #00FF00; } /* visited link */
a:hover { color: #FF00FF; } /* mouse over link */

Buy early, buy often!
```

class	description
:active	an activated or selected element
:focus	an element that has the keyboard focus
:hover	an element that has the mouse over it
:link	a link that has not been visited
:visited	a link that has already been visited
:first-letter	the first letter of text inside an element
:first-line	the first line of text inside an element
:first-child	an element that is the first one to appear inside another
:nth-child(N)	applies to every Nth child of a given parent

W3C CSS Validator

- jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/
- checks your CSS to make sure it meets the official CSS specifications
- more picky than the web browser, which may render malformed CSS correctly