MIS3690 WEB TECHNOLOGIES

BABSON COLLEGE

TOIM DIVISION

VALIDATING FORM INPUTS IN JAVASCRIPT

VALIDATING FORM INPUTS

◼ How do I access a specific form element?

◼ How do I get the value inside?

◼ How do I get to see if the value is empty or blank?

◼ How do I get to see if the value is a non-numerical value?

◼ How can I put a value into a form field?

FORM INPUT VALIDATION (TEXT BOX)

- We get the strings to the form and then use the "NAME" attribute of elements to access them.

- E.g., assume there is a form with the opening tag:

```
<form id = "someForm" action=""…>
```

```
var myForm = document.getElementById("someForm");
```

  - Gets us the strings to the FORM and stores it in this variable

```
Your Name: <input type="text" name="YrNam" maxlength="30"/>
```

  - There is a field in this form which captures the user's name

- `myForm.YrNam.value`

  - gets the value typed into this field

```
myForm.YrNam.value.length
```

  - gets the number of characters typed in this field.

FORM INPUT VALIDATION (TEXT AREA)

- Assuming there is a text area defined in this form as:

  ```
  Enter your comments below: <br/>
  <textarea name ="comments"></textarea>
  ```

- `myForm.comments.value`

  - gets us the content that the user types in this text area.

  - Remember: you can use `.value` to both GET the value typed in and to PUT values into that field (both `textarea` and `textbox`).

FORM INPUT VALIDATION (DROPDOWN)

- Assuming there is a drop down defined in this form as:

```
Select the browsers you like:

<select name="browsers">

   <option value = "Chrome"> Chrome </option>

   <option value = "Safari"> Safari </option>

</select>
```

- `myForm.browsers.value`

  - gets the value of the option that the user has selected.

A NEW EVENT – ONCHANGE

- onchange event
  - Used with drop-down menus in forms
  - Will be triggered when the user selects a different (or new) value from the list

USE CS15-INCLASS-2

■ Build a simple calculator without any validation.