

WEB BEHAVIOR

JAVASCRIPT PLUGINS

FINDING & EVALUATING PLUGINS

- “Plugin” = an industry term
- The jQuery ecosystem
- Google it! It's been done
- Quality control
- jQuery plugin Programmers
 - Private use, or released into the wild
 - “Buyer” beware



PLUGIN PARTS

- Author of the plugin decides
- 3 - 5 parts (depending on the plugin)
- “Open source”
- 5 Parts
 1. Library script
 2. Plugin script
 - (3) CSS file (from plugin website)
 - (4) Initialization and options script (instructions from plugin website)
 - (5) Content, arranged in a specific way (instructions from plugin website)

EXAMPLES USING: “JQUERY UI” – A PLUGIN

- “jQuery UI” - widget and interaction library
- Quality control - very good

Note: “jQuery UI” is *not* jQuery



1. INSTALL JQUERY

- jQuery website: **www.jquery.com**
- You can use the same jQuery library to power all jQuery behaviors
 - Important: only load this library once on the webpage, even if you are installing multiple plugins

- Download and insert:

```
<script src="js/jquery.js"></script>
```

or point to a CDN:

```
<script src="http://code.jquery.com/jquery.js"></script>
```

- Insert the jQuery script near the bottom of the HTML document, above the closing `</body>` tag.
 - Remember: the jQuery script must be inserted above any other JavaScript that uses it

2. INSTALL THE PLUGIN (JQUERY UI)

- jQuery UI website: www.jqueryui.com
- You can use the same plugin to power all jQuery UI behaviors
 - Important: only load this library once on the webpage, even if you are planning to use multiple "widgets"

- Download and insert:

```
<script src="js/jquery-ui.js"></script>
```

or point to a CDN:

```
<script src="http://code.jquery.com/ui/1.11.4/jquery-ui.js"></script>
```

- Insert the jQuery UI script near the bottom of the HTML document, *below* the jQuery script

3. INSTALL THE PLUGIN'S CSS (JQUERY UI CSS)

- jQuery UI website: www.jqueryui.com
 - Find the generic CSS or a customized theme and download it
 - Note: You can use the same CSS to style all jQuery UI widgets
- Download and insert

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="css/jquery-ui.css"></script>
```

...and download its associated images folder that goes in the CSS folder

or point to a CDN (if it exists):

- Insert the jQuery CSS link in the <head> of your HTML document

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="http://code.jquery.com/ui/1.11.4/themes/smoothness/jquery-ui.css">
```

4A. INITIALIZE THE SCRIPT

- From the jQuery UI website, look-up what you need to use to initialize the particular widget you want to use.
- Inert the initialization string(s)

Example...

```
<script>  
    $( "#accordion" ).accordion();  
</script>
```

...below the jQuery and jQuery UI scripts

4B. INITIALIZE THE SCRIPT WITH OPTIONS

- Options go in an "array"
 - {
 property: value,
 property: value
}
- From the jQuery UI website, look-up the customization options you want to use for each widget.
- Insert the customization options into the initialization strings, between curly braces, inside the parenthesis like this...

```
<script>  
$( "#accordion" ).accordion({  
    collapsible: true,  
    heightStyle: "content"  
});  
</script>
```

- Notice that commas go after each option, but not after the last option

5. ARRANGE HTML CONTENT IN A SPECIFIC WAY

- From the jQuery UI website, look-up the way content must be arranged in your HTML for each widget to work.

Example (in HTML):

```
<div id="accordion">

    <h2>First header</h2>
    <div>First content panel</div>

    <h2>Second header</h2>
    <div>Second content panel</div>

</div>
```