LECTURE 33

HTML AND CSS

MCS 275 Spring 2021
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LECTURE 33: HTML AND CSS

Course bulletins:

- We're starting a unit on programming for the web, leading up to building web applications in Python.

- Worksheet 12 covers databases. (Do you want to install the sqlite command line shell? It's optional.)

CORE WEB TECHNOLOGIES

HTML - Hypertext Markup Language. Web page content is written in this language.

CSS - Cascading Style Sheets. Web page presentation (margins, fonts, colors, ...) is specified in this language.

JS - JavaScript. The language for programs that run in the browser and make web pages interactive.

HTTP - Hypertext Transfer Protocol. The network protocol used to send all of the above from a server to the browser (client).

URL - Uniform Resource Locator. A string that describes where a resource (e.g. web page) is, and how to get it (e.g. HTTP).

Opening **developer tools** in your browser with Ctrl-Shift-i will let you explore most of these for live pages.

HTML

First developed in 1993 by physicist Tim Berners-Lee.

Uses plain text with **tags** to indicate the structure of a document (and to add links, images, other resources).

HTML exists in many versions. We focus on HTML5 (from 2014), which all modern browsers support.

The rest of today's lecture overlaps a lot with MCS 260 Fall 2020 Lecture 22.

HTML EXAMPLE

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Document title as seen in browser tab</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    Content you'll see in the browser window.
  </body>
</html>
```

Indenting is optional. Note how start tags and end tags (like `<tagname>` and `</tagname>`) function like parentheses, surrounding the text they apply to.

A FEW USEFUL TAGS

p	paragraph
ul	unordered (bullet) list
ol	ordered (numbered) list
li	item in a list
strong	important text to be emphasized

A FEW USEFUL TAGS

h1, h2, …, h6	headings for document, section, subsection, etc.
div	Component (division) of a document
a	link to another resource
img	image (no end tag)

The `a` and `img` tags require **attributes** to be useful. These are key=value pairs in the start tag, e.g.

```
See the <a href="http://example.com/">example.com web site</a>

My kitten, Mr. Mittens: <img src="kitten.jpg">
```

CSS

HTML is for a document's **content**, with logical parts indicated by tags.

CSS is a related language for specifying **presentation** or **style** (spacing, color, typeface, etc.)

CSS EXAMPLE

```
body {
    font-family: sans-serif;
    background: #C0C0C0;
    max-width: 45rem;
    padding: 2rem;
    margin: auto;
}
a {
    color: #000050;
    text-decoration: none;
}
a:hover {
    text-decoration: underline;
}
```

One way to apply it to a HTML document is to place the CSS code within a `style` tag in the header.

REFERENCES

- [HTML tutorial from W3Schools](#) (all in-browser)

- [A Guide to HTML5 and CSS3](#) - no-cost PDF ebook from 2014 that is good for self-study; must enter an email address to download

- Countless web design books in the O'Reilly technical library (free to anyone with a UIC email address).

REVISION HISTORY

- 2021-04-05 Initial publication