

Dreamweaver Lecture 6 notes – R. Berdan

Note there are differences in the implementation of CSS in different versions of Dreamweaver – this was written for Dreamweaver MX but most of the instructions should work in MX2004 and Dreamweaver 8. One of the frustrations with Dreamweaver MX2004 and 8 is that they often insert styles especially class files that are not wanted. You can turn off automatic styles by going into Edit>Preferences>General and unselecting use CSS styles by default.

Objectives Part 1 :

- a) To add an internal and external style sheet to a web page
- b) Use style sheets to modify text with classes
- c) Modify links “Selectors” using pseudo classes
- d) Modify background properties
- e) Modify block and box attributes
- f) Setting CSS – list properties
- g) Exporting and linking Style Sheets

Styles are a way of controlling the presentation of information in the document window including: text, font, font size, hyperlinks, tables, image borders. The Cascading term comes from the fact that styles you create can cascade through your entire web site if you use an external style sheet. Note there are currently two implementations of CSS-1 and CSS-2. Both require Netscape 4.0 or I.E. 4.0 and again you must preview the pages in both browsers to be sure they work in each. Some features of CSS are not fully implemented in current web browsers. Their main advantage is that you can create one style sheet for an entire web site, modifying the single sheet updates formatting of the entire web site – and this is the direction the web is going. You can also use styles developed by others in your web site. Style sheets are replacing the tag which is being deprecated.

Exercise #1 – Create an internal Custom Style Class)

- 1) Create new web page in Dreamweaver and save it – style1.html
- 2) Click on the style button on the minilauncher (S) in the lower right or Window>CSS styles
- 3) There are 4 buttons on the botto left corner of the style panel a) attach style sheet b) new style sheet (+), c) edit existing style sheet and 4) delete selected style
- 4) Click on the new style button
- 5) Select>Define in >this document only radio button (makes internal style sheet)
- 6) Select>Make Custom Style radio button
- 7) Give it the name in the top input field **.redBold** (don't forget the dot)>**OK**
- 8) A style definition box appears, Select>Type in the left Category box if it is not already selected.
- 9) Select Font: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif, weight bold, color red >OK
- 10) Type a sentence or two in the document window, then select a few words with your mouse (click and drag on text), open the CSS panel and click on the .redBold style to see the style applied to the text. Select the none Style to remove the style from additional text you create on the page.

When you are finished view the source code of your page and you should see something like this in the head of the document::

```
<style type="text/css">
<!--
```

```
.redBold { font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif; font-weight: bold; color: #FF0000}  
-->  
</style>
```

and like this in the body of the document:

```
<body bgcolor="#FFFFFF" text="#000000">  
<p>Hello this is just <span class="redBold">a test of setting up my own style.  
</span>If I continue to type </p>  
</body>
```

The tags apply the style you defined and created to the text inside the body of the document.

Exercise #2 – Redefining HTML tags

When you redefine an HTML tag using style sheets, the style is applied whenever that tags is used with the document. Remember if you make a change to the tag using standard HTML it will override the style sheet.

- 1) Create new page style2.html select the CSS panel and click on the New Style button
- 2) Select the redefine HTML tag radio button
- 3) Select the h1 tag from the drop down menu
- 4) Leave the choice as "This document only"
- 5) Click OK to bring up the Style Definition panel
- 6) Select Type> Font Arial Font size 24 points, Line Height 26 points, color green>OK
- 7) Select H1 from the window>properties box and type something on the page
- 8) To change the color select the Edit button on the CSS panel
- 9) Select the h1 tag and modify the color in the style definition box

Exercise #3 – Defining CSS Selector or psuedo classes (page 208)

Selector are associated with <a> link or anchor tag and there are 4 options

- 1) **a:active** – customizes the style of the link when the user selects it
- 2) **a:hover** – customizes the style of the link when the user's mouse is over it
- 3) **a:link** - customizes the style of the link that has not been visited recently
- 4) **a:visited** – customizes the style of the link to a page that has been visited recently

These features must be previewed in the browser and can not be viewed in Dreamweaver.

- 1) Start a new page save as style3.html and then open the CSS panel
- 2) Select New Style (+) button >Use CSS Selector, This Document only
- 3) Select a:hover (this will change the appearance of a hyperlink when the mouse is over it
- 4) OK> in the style definition box change the color to red, decoration – none >Apply>OK
- 5) Create a hyper link to a web site in the page then preview it in I.E.

When you move over the hyperlink – it should turn red and underline should not be visible (this feature may not work properly in some versions of Netscape).

Exercise #4 Create a web page and add a external simple style sheet.

- 1) Open Dreamweaver, start a new page save it into a folder - call it style4.html
- 2) Click on the CSS style button on the mini launcher in the lower right of the document window (circle with S inside it) make sure the CSS tab is selected in the open panel.
- 3) Click the new style button (+) at the bottom of the CSS panel
- 4) In the New Style Pop up box>Select Type> Redefine HTML tag radio button, leave Define in> New Style Sheet File (this will create an external style sheet).
- 5) Tag>drop down menu>select h5>OK
- 6) Save as mystylesheet.css
- 7) A style definition box appears make sure the Category selected is Type, select Font> Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif, set size to 14 pixels, Weight bold, Color red>OK
- 8) Type some text on the page and using the properties box select h5 – it should be red, bold and uses an arial font 14 pixels high. (applies formatting to entire line you select)
- 9) View source code and you will only see the reference to the style sheet. However the style sheet could be edited with any text editor manually or using the CSS box edit button.- try this edit the style and change the color to blue.

Exercise #5 – Setting CSS List Attributes

For this exercise you will need some small graphics to use as bullets – several types are supplied, more can be found on the Internet.

- 1) Start a new page call it style5.html then Open the CSS panel
- 2) Select New Style (+) button
- 3) Select>Redefine HTML tag, This Document only, from drop down ul>OK
- 4) In the definitions style box>Category>list
- 5) Bullet image>select browse button> select the bullet12.gif or other image file>OK
- 6) Create a list using the properties box then preview in browser (image do not show up in Dreamweaver)

This does not work in Netscape 4.5 – 4.6 – it is possible to do the same thing using a definition list with HTML programming manually and it would be more compatible (see HTML text book) Try editing and modifying some properties like Repeat set background to repeat.

Exercise #6 – CSS Background Attributes – page 21

Background attributes using styles is much greater than it is using HTML alone which is limited to 2 features <body bgcolor = “color” background=“image.jpg”>.

With styles you choose to repeat (tile) or not tile the background image, you can also make the background fixed while the text scrolls over top of it. And there is more – you can position the images, horizontally, vertically and you can even tile the images horizontally and vertically. The bad news is – test the effect in both browsers, many of these features are not Netscape 4 compatible.

- 1) Create new page save as style6.html>Select CSS Panel
- 2) Select new style, This document only, Redefine HTML tag select – body>OK
- 3) Category>background>Background image select browse >BigFire2.gif
- 4) Select Repeat>no repeat and Attachment>fixed>Apply>OK
- 5) Preview in browser – looks great in I.E. but no good in Netscape

Many of the other Style features which Dreamweaver 4 supports are not yet supported by any browsers e.g. CSS Extension Options, but you may wish to experiment with them.

Due to the complexity of Style sheets a useful feature to know about is the O'Reilly CSS reference

To show the CSS Reference notes

- 1) Click on the folder in the mini launcher (launches assets panel and Reference) choose Reference tab (you can also select the <?> icon at the top of the document window.
- 2) From the drop down menu choose CSS reference and for example font-family

The reference will tell you what version of CSS it is supported by and which browser and version