

Assignment Summary #1b

Creating a Style Sheet to Modify Your XHTML

Now that you have created a basic web page, we are going to format its styling using an external file called a Cascading Style Sheet (CSS). This one list of styles (or rules) can control how any number of separate web pages look. This makes it easy to modify your pages all at once with one file instead of having to tediously change each one. We will start this process with some very basic styles and then add to them. You can create a style for any tag within your html code. If you want to style a section or even a word or letter, you can wrap them with special tags and then style those in CSS. Here's how:

The Steps:

1. Open up your last assignment in Notepad++. The first thing we are going to do is create four separate sections on the page: the header, the sidebar, the main section, and the footer.
2. This all happens in between the `<body>` `</body>` tags. Each section that you create will be surrounded by `<div>` `</div>` tags. Div stands for division because you are creating large divisions in your web page. The first set of `<div>` `</div>` tags goes around your `<h1>` header. The next section surrounds the Unordered List of links `` ``. The next section surrounds the main body of text, including the sub-headers. The last section surrounds your MLA info. Make sure your picture is either included within the `<div>` for the Unordered List, or the main body of text. Feel free to space things out so that don't have trouble seeing what's what. This spacing doesn't affect anything on the web page.
3. Once you have `<div>` `</div>` tags around your sections, you need to add a little bit of code inside the opening `<div>` tag of each section. You need to identify the tag to your CSS file with an "id" designation. So put the cursor right after "div" but before the ">" on the first one and then hit space bar and type: `id="header"`. Do the same for the other three: `id="sidebar"` (for the links) `id="main"` `id="footer"`.
(ex. `<div id="main">`) Save your work.
4. Now open a blank Notepad++ file alongside the first one. Save the file in the same manner as the html file, but with a .css extension. For 2nd period, mine would be: **2DavidA1.css**. These two files always stay together, so have a similar name.
5. There are three types of styles you can create in your CSS file. Styles for tags, styles for id's, and styles for classes. We will first create styles for tags – specifically the `<body>` tag. Type the following code into your blank CSS file.

```
body {
    font-family: times;
    background-color: #ffeeee;
}
```

6. Leave a blank line and put the `<h1>` styles first then the `<h2>` styles.

```
h1 {
    font-family: arial;
    font-size: 3em;
    color: #000080;
    font-weight: bold;
    text-align: center;
}
```

```
h2 {
    font-family: georgia;
    font-size: 1.75em;
    color: #8B4513;
    font-weight: bold;
    text-align: left;
}
```

- Now we're going to adjust the four divisions you identified earlier. Each division can be individually formatted to add their own background color, pattern, or image. Fonts, spacing, etc. can all be customized. AND you can float them around the page. This will be very helpful. Because these divisions are identified by "id" names, they are treated a little different in CSS, but not much different. Instead of just listing the tag name, you begin the id name with a "#". You can modify the specific styles to your liking.

```
#header {
    width: 100%;
    height: 100px;
    background-color: #ffffff;
    background-image: url(http://www...html);
    border: solid 2px #181818;
}

#sidebar {
    float: left;
    width: 300px;
    background-color: #eeeeee;
    border: solid 2px #000033;
    margin: 10px;
    padding: 5px;
}

#main {
    background-color: #fff99;
    padding: 2em;
    margin-left: 330px;
}

#footer {
    width: 100%;
    height: 130px;
    background-color: #ffffff;
}
```

Once you've finished the CSS file, you can modify all of these styles to change the look of your page.

- Modify your Picture using a "class" designation. Classes are similar to id's except they can happen more than once. You can create a class within pretty much any tag. For instance: `` could be how your html would look. Notice the added section shown with yellow highlight. Then add a class style in your css file. You need both parts for it to work. Class styles begin with a period:

```
.pic {
    width: 300px;
    border: double 4px #000000;
    float: right;
}
```

- Now we need to link this file to your primary html file. Type the following into your html file after `<head>` but before `</head>` and save. You will need to change the name of the css file to what yours is named. It is case-sensitive.

```
<style text="text/css">
@import url(2DavidA1.css);
</style>
```

- Continue to modify until you like the look of it. Use the CSS Tutorial in the Assignment Box for additional ideas. Save to Edmodo and send both files to Mr. Ahrens.