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Design for the Web 2
Art 49540 4KN
FALL 2008

Week 2:

Topics for Week 2:

[copy the Week 2 Class Links page and handouts from the server]
Good Practices:
naming conventions, organizing files/folders, commenting code, organizing your CSS in sections/by element/dividing into multiple files
accessibility issues
using a doctype, core XHTML page and CSS pages
units of measure: px, %, em
block level and inline elements: divs and spans
CSS selector syntax
stylesheets: import, link, internal

positioning review: normal flow of the document, absolute, fixed [not the same as fixed layout!], floats [covered in detail later], centering containers
typical 2 and 3 column fixed layouts [centered]

The Box Model, collapsing margins
The Color Box Technique, step-by-step

Reading, Week 2:

CSS Mastery:	Chapter 1	Setting the Foundations
	Chapter 2	Visual Formatting Model Recap
	Chapter 7	Layout [see centering, fixed/liquid/elastic]

ZenCSS Examples

ZEN CSS EXAMPLES: 015/028/035/038/041/084/211/
http://www.csszengarden.com/?cssfile=XXX/XXX.css use this format for links

Assignment for Week 3:

COLOR BOX LAYOUT:
use the Color Box method to create a new layout for the ZenCSS document text
use a 2 or 3-column fixed-size design [background colors ONLY, no images]
FIRST: map your layout out on paper, showing dimensions of each DIV box

If you need a guide for the layout, use one of the layout gala pages as a guide.
[**go to http://blog.html.it/layoutgala/ for help with column layouts]**

create containers/name containers/markup containers [keep the ZenCSS DIV names]
position the containers/give containers a color background
drop in the text content
style the fonts [use only basic font styling]
keep your styles in internal style sheet
organize your CSS document following good practices with dividers and commenting

view in 2 browsers [but not IE5!]
Copy your page and .css file to your name folder on the server for Week 3 BEFORE class

Important Links:

course **web page**
http://www.annetteweintraub.com/courses/49540/49540.html

Assignment from Week 1

1. download the zencss text from the zengarden site. download the add-on tools [free downloads] TextWrangler, WebDeveloper, Firebug and SpryMedia Design tool.

2. analyze the homepage of ZenCSS and look at the Core Document.
   open it Firefox and "disable CSS' using WebDev; also "view Source"
   what is the hierarchy of the document?
   what is the sequence of elements? how can these chunks be rearranged on the page?
   Linearize the page: look at it with the CSS removed.

3. Diagram the structure of the ZenCSS HTML document to show the structure.
   You can use marker pen on paper; you can use color
   Make sure your sketch is clear and legible
   Show relationship of NESTED DIV containers [you can use WebDev, Firebug and CSSviewer]
   Label with DIV names
   Label with dimensions
   Show all DIV containers

4. Look at three examples from the CSSZenGarden site