CGS 3175: Internet Applications Fall 2009

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) – Part 2

Instructor : Dr. Mark Llewellyn markl@cs.ucf.edu HEC 236, 407-823-2790 http://www.cs.ucf.edu/courses/cgs3175/fall2009

School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science University of Central Florida

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CSS – Classes and IDs

- You might be wondering after reading the first part of the CSS notes and creating your first style sheets what to do if you need to assign more than one style to the same element.
- For example, suppose that you define the following style for the element:

p { color: red }

- If you define the element like this, all paragraphs in your document will be formatted with red text. If you want some paragraphs to have black text, you'll need to override the global styles with an inline style. This however can become quite tedious if many style changes are needed in a single document.
- The better solution is to use a class or id selector.



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CSS – Classes and IDs

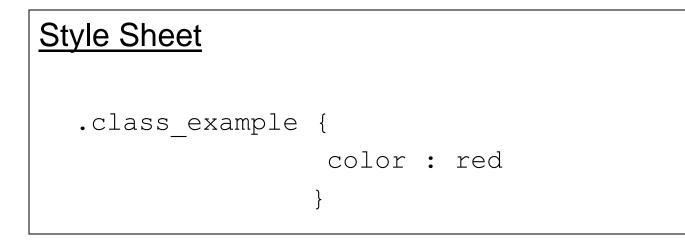
- Class and id selectors are used to define styles in your document that are independent of elements.
- Classes can be used to define styles for any number of elements and for any number of occurrences of elements in a document.
- The id attribute occurs only once in a document, so it should not be used to declare styles for a number of elements.
- For example, if you know that a certain element in a document will be used to uniquely identify the document, but you are not sure which element it will be in each document, you can use the id selector to generically reference the unique element independent of the document itself.
- The syntax for the class and id attributes are shown on the next two pages.

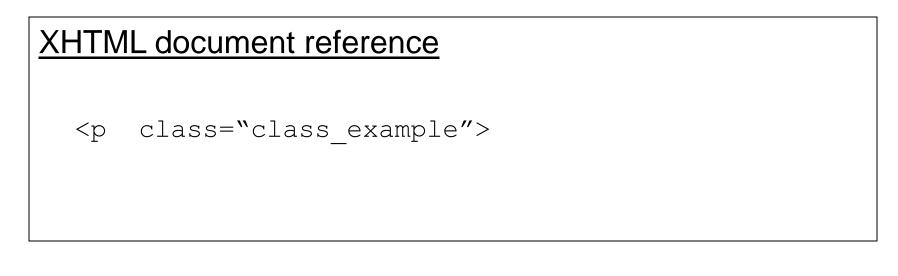


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Class Selector Syntax



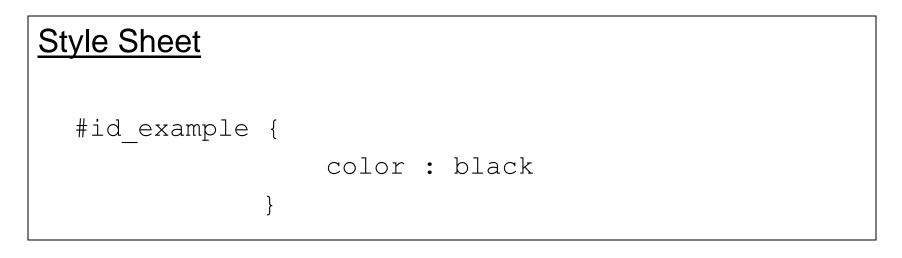


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ID Selector Syntax



XHTML document reference

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Using class and id Selectors

- Using class and id selectors for style formatting requires certain changes to the XHTML document because the appropriate attributes must be defined for each element to be formatted.
- Classes can also be assigned to individual elements to allow more control over formatting. This is done by placing the name of an element in front of the period in a class style declaration. For example, the following defines class formatting styles that apply only to the element:

```
p { color: black }
p.red_text { color: red }
p.cyan_text { color: cyan}
```

• These declarations set font colors for the element depending on which class is defined in the element. If no class attribute is specified, then the declaration for the element of black is applied.



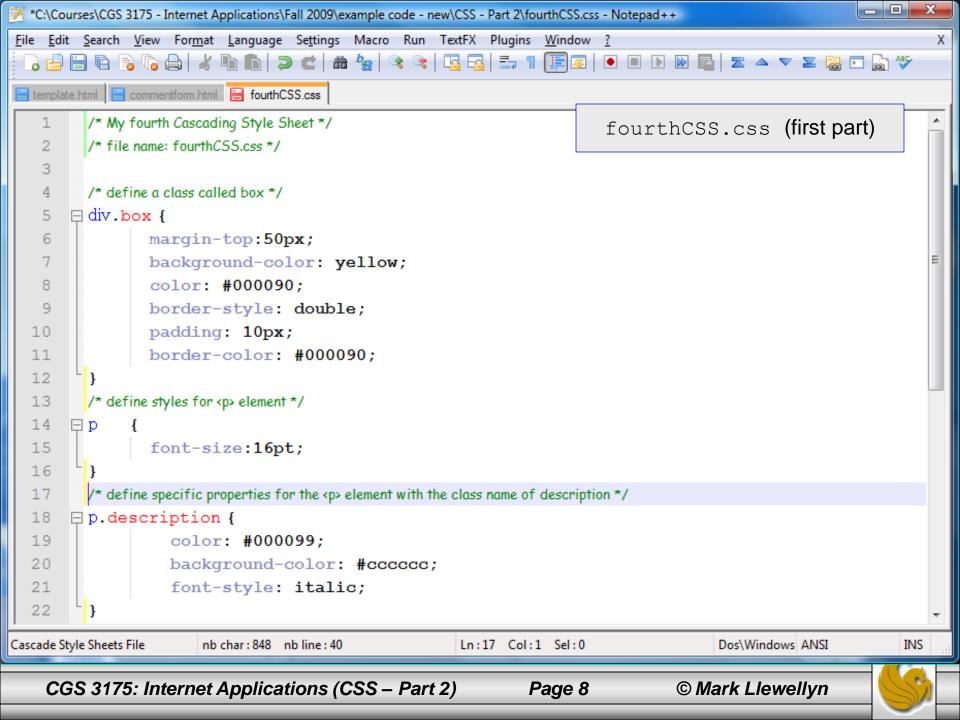


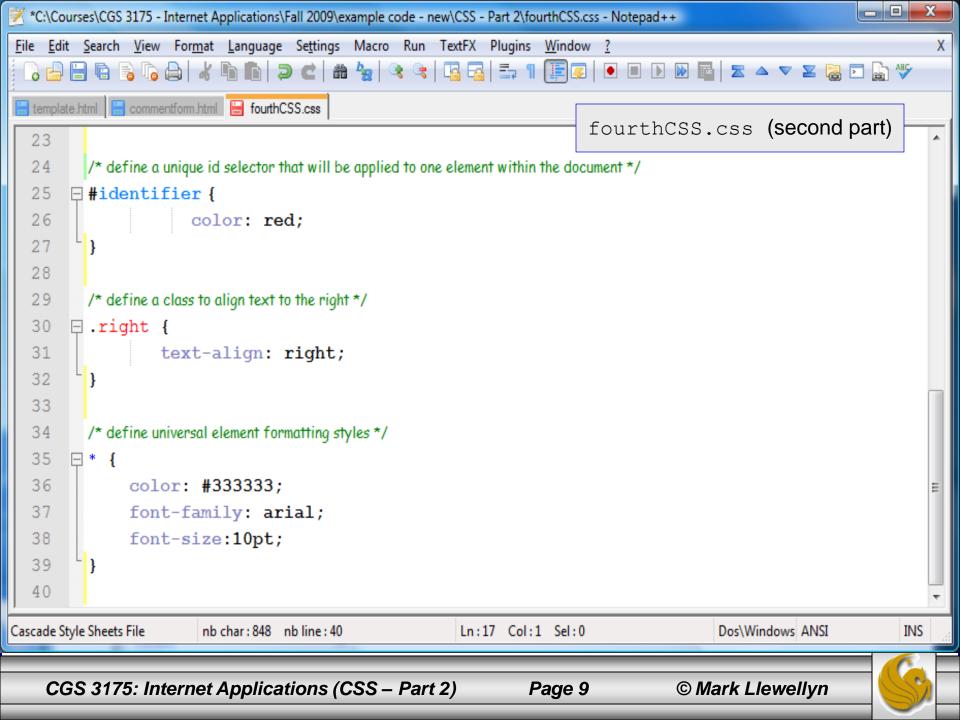
Using class and id Selectors

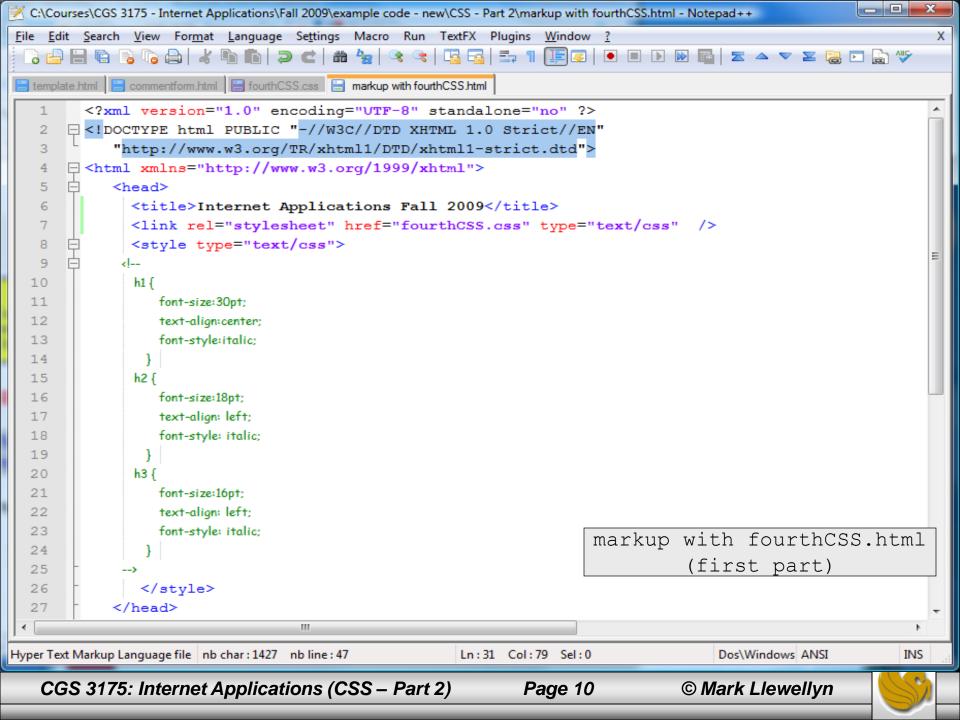
- Let's look at a slightly more complex example, using our original markup.xhtml file for our course description (see page 60, XHTML-Part 1).
- We'll modify this original example using class and id attributes. We'll also define a new linked style sheet (external to the document) as well as using a global style sheet (internal to the document) and also include a few inline styles as well.
- Pages 8 & 9 show the linked style sheet we'll call fourthCSScss.
- Pages 10-11 show the modified XHTML document with global and inline styles.
- Finally page 12 illustrates how the document is rendered in a browser.

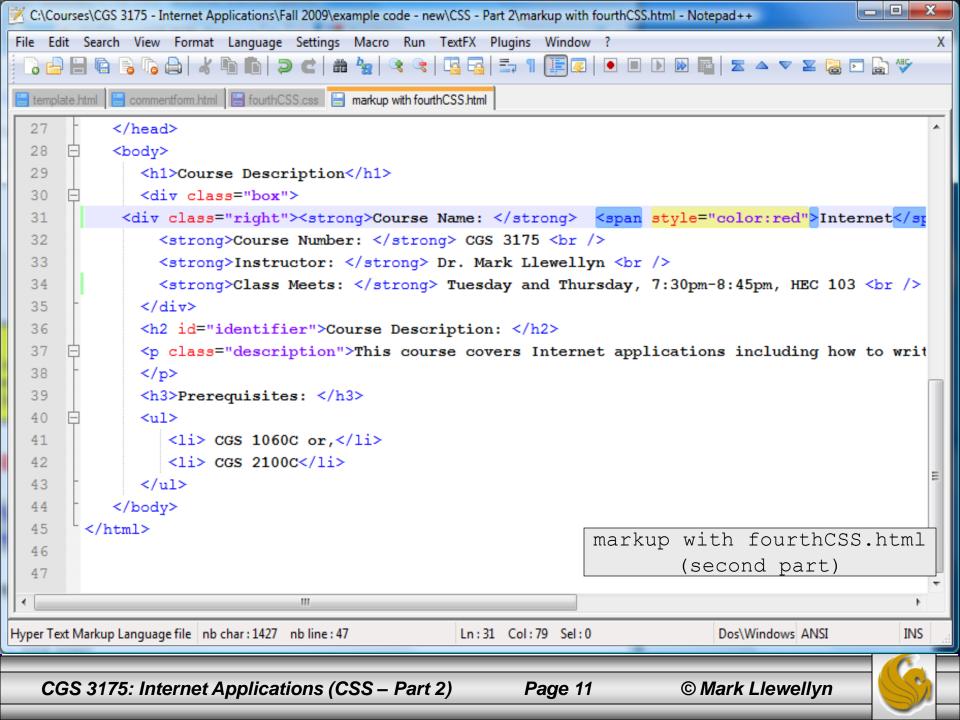


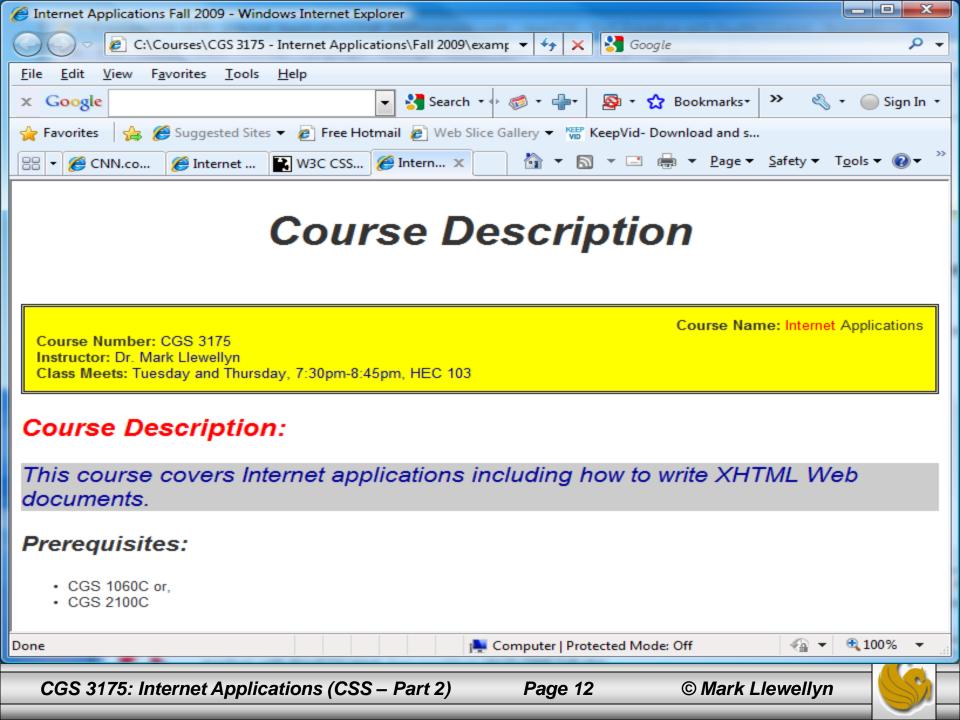
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Property Inheritance

- We looked at nesting elements in XHTML (see XHTML Part 3).
- Elements that are contained within other elements are said to be children of the outer elements, and the outer elements are referred to as parents of the nested elements.
- This hierarchy of elements is applied to CSS in the form of property inheritance.
- Property inheritance means the properties that are defined for parent elements are passed along to child elements, unless the child element overrides the property.



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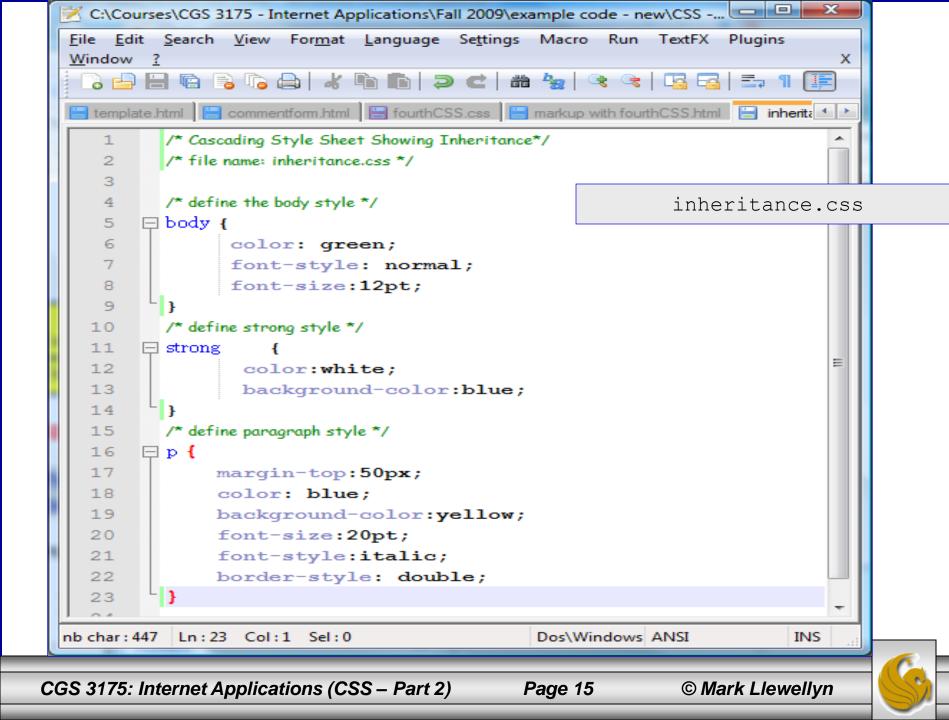
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Property Inheritance

- For example, if the parent of an element sets its font to be 18 points, the child elements will also have a font size of 18 points unless they declare their own rules to override the rules defined by the parent.
- Using the course description example from the previous set of notes the one that used the style sheet named secondCSS.css, let's create a new style sheet called inheritance.css to demonstrate property inheritance for this XHTML document.



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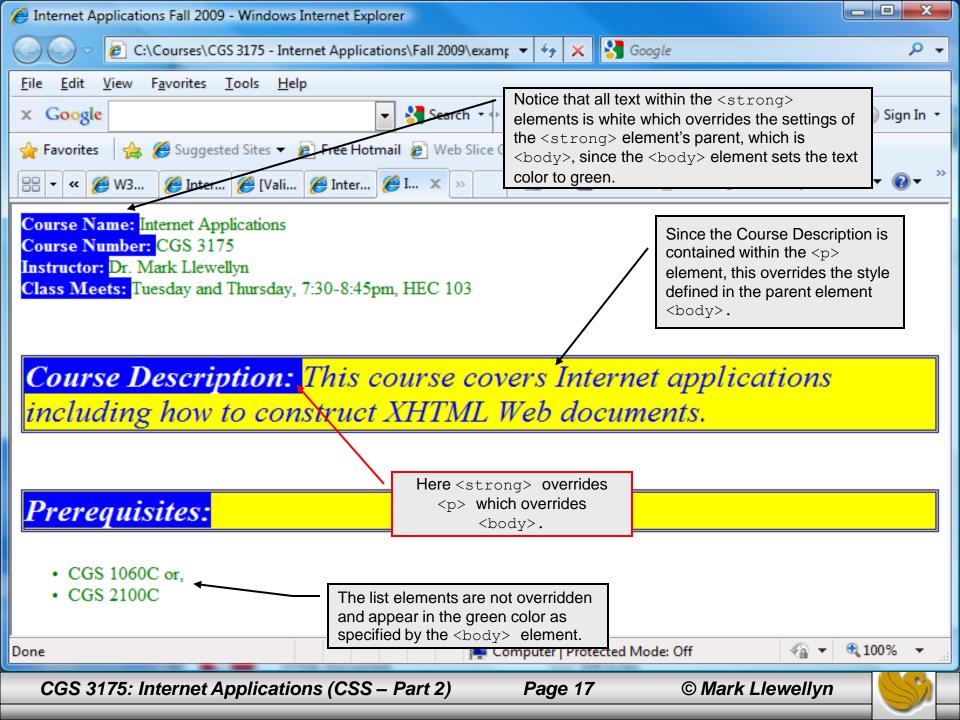


markup with inheritance.html

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no" ?>
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
   "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
   <head>
    <title>Internet Applications Fall 2008</title>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="inheritance.css" type="text/css" />
   </head>
   <body>
      <strong>Course Name: </strong> Internet Applications <br />
     <strong>Course Number: </strong> CGS 3175 <br />
     <strong>Instructor: </strong> Dr. Mark Llewellyn <br />
     <strong>Class Meets: </strong> Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30pm-2:45pm, HEC
118 <br />
     <q>
      <strong>Course Description: </strong> This course covers Internet
applications including how to write XHTML Web documents.
     <strong>Prerequisites: </strong>
      <11]>
        <1i>CGS 1060C or, </1i>
        <1i> CGS 2100C</1i>
     </body>
</html>
```

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Practice Problems

1. Create an XHTML document and two different linked style sheets that will generate versions of the document shown on the following two pages when rendered by a browser. Be sure to use at least one class in your stylesheet. Change the link element in the header of your XHTML document to restyle the page using the two different linked style sheets.

Use the color charts found on the course web site (helpful things) to set the colors. Experiment a bit and change the colors to your preferences.



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Practice Problems

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