Session 3: CSS Positioning & Layout

IML 400

“The Web is Dead”

The Internet is evolving. How?

CSS Layout & Positioning

display

CSS display

- block
  - <div>, <p>, <form>, <header>
  - starts on new line, stretches as far as possible
- inline
  - <span>, <a>
  - Wraps text inside a paragraph without disrupting the flow of a paragraph
- none
  - <script>
  - Commonly used in Javascript to hide/show elements

CSS margin

```
#main {
    width: 600px;
    margin: 0 auto;
}
```

- Setting width prevents an element from stretching
- left/right margins center
- Resize to make the browser smaller than 600px…

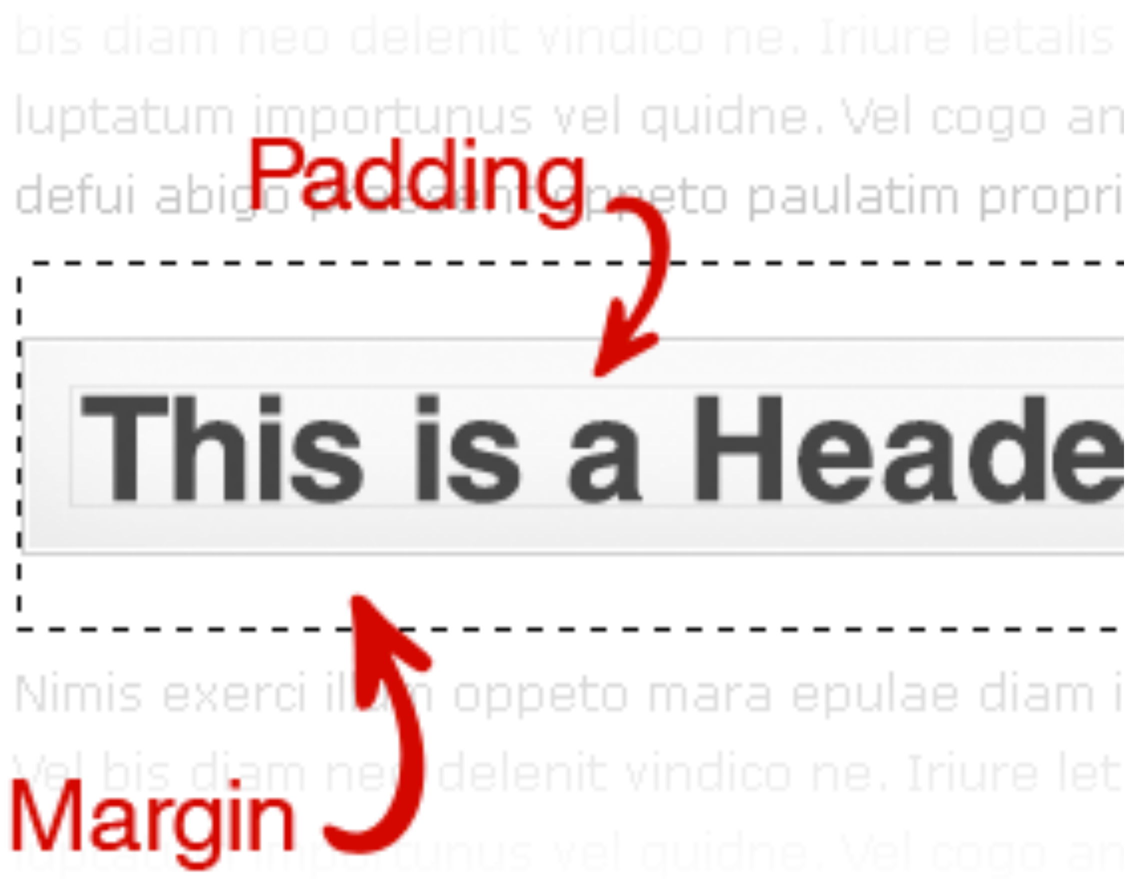
CSS margin (max-width)

```
#main {
    max-width: 600px;
    margin: 0 auto;
}
```

- Setting max-width improves browser's handling of small windows

The Box Model

- Setting width can be misleading!
- Margin vs. padding
- Look up box-sizing property for another option…



CSS position

static

```
.static {

    position: static;

}
```

- Default
- No special positioning

relative

```
.relative1 {

        position: relative;

}

.relative2 {

        position: relative;

        top: -20px;

        left: 20px;

        background-color: red;

        width: 500px

}
```

relative

- Applicable to nested elements
- Use top, right, bottom and left properties to orient

fixed

```
.static {
        position: fixed;
        bottom: 0;
        left: 0;
        width: 300px;
        background-color: orange;
}
```

- Positioned relative to viewport
- Cumbersome with some browsers (i.e., IE)

absolute

- Behaves like fixed except relative to its parent element (not the viewport)
- If no parent element, it uses the viewport
- Still moves along with scrolling (not like fixed)

absolute

```
.relative {
    position: relative;
    width: 600px;
    height: 400px;
}
.absolute {
    position: absolute;
    top: 120px;
    right: 0;
    width: 300px;
    height: 200px;
}
```

CSS float

float

- Wraps text around images

```
img {

    float: right;

    margin: 0 0 1em 1em;

}
```

clear

- Controls the behavior of floats

```
.box {
	float: left;
	width: 200px;
	height: 100px;
	margin: 1em;
}
.after-box {
	clear: both;
}
```

clear

- What happened?
  - Adding “after-box” to <section> allowed it to move below the div
  - left value cleared elements floated to the left
    - can clear “right” and “both”

CSS percentages

percent width

- Percentage relative to the containing block
- Great for images

```
img {
    float: right;
    width: 50%;
}
```

percent width layouts

- Precursor to responsive design
- Pros and Cons
  - More work
  - Flexibility

media queries

- Responsive Design
- “Responds” to the browser and device
- Use @media

Assignments

http://usc.raphaelarar.com/assignments.html

Next Week

Workshop: More on CSS (Styling & Positioning)
Lecture: Digital Storytelling & Aesthetic Applications