

HTML Basics

HTML is a markup language used to prepare plain-text documents for use on the Web. HTML documents can be created with Web editors such as Microsoft FrontPage and Macromedia Dreamweaver or simply on Note Pad (PC) or Simple Text (Mac). In addition, HTML documents can be easily transferred between computer platforms.

BASIC HTML DOCUMENT

```
<html>
  <head>
    <title> My Course Home Page </title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1> Welcome to Humanities 101! </h1>
    <p> The syllabus for this course is
    available online </p>
  </body>
</html>
```

HTML TAGS <HTML> </HTML>

Plain-text commands enclosed within angle brackets. These tags tell the browser that this is an HTML document and how to display the information in the document. Many html tags have both opening and closing tags such as <html> and </html>, with a forward slash added in the closing tag. Text that is affected by the HTML tags is enclosed within the tags.

HEAD <HEAD> </HEAD>

Contains the title of the Web page and information of use to the browser, Web servers, and search engines.

TITLE <TITLE> </TITLE>

This is the title of your Web page and is the information used by browsers to locate the information contained in your page. Short, descriptive titles are recommended.

BODY <BODY> </BODY>

Contains content that is visible to the user.

HEADINGS <H1> </H1>

Relate to the size of the text displayed. These tags are preformatted and the appearance of the affected text cannot be changed using basic HTML. There are six sizes from h1 (the largest) to h6 (the smallest).

APPEARANCE STYLES

```
<b></b> <strong></strong> <italic></italic> <em></em>
```

ATTRIBUTES & VALUES

An attribute is a characteristic or aspect of an HTML tag. A value further defines an attribute. For example, in the tag <table border =1>

- the word table defines the tag
- border is the attribute of the table tag

Note: HTML is not case-sensitive. Using either upper or lowercase will not affect the html code. Reference: HTML for the World Wide Web, Elizabeth Castro 5/06

FONT ATTRIBUTES

Add face, color, size to the font tag to define the specifics you want to apply to the font. For example: Humanities 101

HYPERLINKS

Electronic link providing one-click access to other Web sites or other places within a site. Link formats: Syllabus to link within a site OR Sac State Homepage to link to another site.

LISTS

Lists can be ordered (1,2,3) or unordered (no particular order, bulleted). Each list item must be preceded by . Use before and after ordered list items, and before and after unordered list items.

NESTED TAGS

Tags are contained within other tags when more than one attribute is applied. For example,

```
<b><font face="arial" color=#66CC00>Humanities 101</font></b>
```

Notice that the font tags are nested within the bold tags here. Other examples are shown on the reverse side: the body tags are nested within the html tags.

PARAGRAPHS, LINE BREAKS, HORIZONTAL RULES

<p> </p> Paragraph tags must be used for a new paragraph because HTML ignores spaces using the Enter/Return key.
 Use to begin a new line. There is no closing tag. <hr> Use to insert a graphic horizontal rule (line) on your page. The attributes of Width, Size (thickness) & Align (alignment) can be added to the tag. There is no closing tag.

SPACING

Browsers generally ignore additional spaces placed in HTML code and spaces that are added with the Return/Enter key. Use Shift + Enter to force a single line spacing and use the <p> tag to begin a new paragraph.

URLS

Uniform Resource Locator means electronic "address." An absolute URL contains the complete address such as: http://www.csus.edu. A relative URL is a partial address in relationship to the file it is in: /images/trees.gif.

VIEW DOCUMENT

Copy and paste your html code into the html view in a Web editor. Save. Access File > Preview in browser. Voila!

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