Fun with CSS; or, How to make your Omeka sites pretty

These slides were originally created by Brenna Bychowski for a presentation at AAS in February 2016.
What is CSS?

CSS allows you to customize the look and layout of your Omeka exhibition (to a point). It also allows you to make broader, site-wide changes, whereas basic html manipulation only affects that specific html. It also allows you to change elements for which you don’t have access to the html.

Best uses:
• Changing color schemes
• Changing text and fonts
• Moving some items

Caveats:
• Not everything can be changed by CSS. Sometimes, it’s just the theme.
• Be mindful of different sized screens. When possible, look at both a desktop and a phone browser to ensure that layout changes are still effective on mobile devices.
Components:

Selectors
• Points to the specific elements

Properties
• Defines an aspect of the element

Values
• Adjusts the property

```css
blockquote {
  width: 80%;
  margin-left: 8%;
  font-size: 16px;
  font-style: italic;
  text-align: justify
}
```
Some options of common selectors that are useful in Omeka:

- h1-h6 [headings]
- blockquote [block quotes]
- p [paragraphs]
- a [links]
- body [body text]
- img [images]

*Note: These all get paired with equivalent html tags, eg. `<h2>`, `<p>`, `<blockquote>`, etc.*

**Examples:**

```css
h3 {
  text-align:center;
  font-size:150%;
  font-variant:small-caps
}

blockquote {
  width:80%;
  margin-left:8%
}

body {
  text-align:justify;
  color:blue
}
```
Three specific kinds of links:

a:link  
The general link, before it’s been clicked

a:hover  
The link while a cursor is hovering over it

a:active  
The link as it’s being clicked

a:visited  
The link after it’s been visited

Examples:

```css
.autumn a:link {
  color: #CE6C3E
}

.autumn a:visited {
  color: #CE6C3E
}

.autumn a:hover {
  color: #FFA300
}
```
Text & Font

Text
• color
• text-align

Font
• font-family
• font-size
• font-variant

Examples:

```css
p {
  color:red;
  text-align:left;
  font-family:"Times New Roman", Times, serif;
  font-size:40px
}

h2 {
  font-size:16px;
  color:#ff0000;
  text-align:center
}

p {
  color:rgb(255,0,0);
  text-align:right;
  font-variant:small-caps
}
```
Margins & Padding

Margins (space outside the border)
- margin [generic tag]
- Generic margin can be followed by -top, -right, -bottom, & -left

Padding (space inside the border)
- padding [generic tag]
- Generic padding can be followed by -top, -right, -bottom, & -left

Using generic tag:
- Four values, in this order: top, right, bottom, left
- Three values: top, right & left, bottom
- Two volumes: top & bottom, right & left

Notes: Can use values in pixels (px) or percentages (%)

Examples:
```css
blockquote {
  margin-top:10px;
  margin-right:5px;
  margin-bottom:10px;
  margin-left:5px
}

h2 {
  padding-top:6px;
  padding-right:4px;
  padding-bottom:8px;
  padding-left:4px
}

p {
  margin:10px 5px;
  padding:6px 4px 8px
}
```
Finding Element Information: Browser 1 (Firefox)

All the dime novels discussed in this exhibit can be found in the American Antiquarian Society dime novel collection. The collection includes almost 1,000 examples of dime fiction, both in volumes bound by former owners and as loose paperbacks in their original wrappers. The AAS holdings represent a large selection of the publications of Beadle and Adams, as well as many of the minor publishing houses such as George Munro; Elliot, Thomas & Tabot; Hilton & Co.; Richmond and Company; and R.M. DeWitt. Cataloging of the collection is in progress with each item receiving detailed rare book cataloging. Only a handful of dime novels have received modern reprints, and many only exist as scarce or unique copies in the hands of collectors or in the holdings of rare book libraries. The following resources provide a more in-depth examination of the history of dime novels and the AAS dime novel collection:

- Johannsen, Albert. The House of Beadle and Adams and its Dime and Nickel Novels, Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1950. (Also available online from Northern Illinois University)
- Nickels and Dimes: From the Collections of Johannsen and Leblanc. An online dime novel project from Northern Illinois University.

This exhibit was born from a cataloging project aimed to catalog our collection of dime novels. I describe the novels properly in order to add to my knowledge of the public culture, and then myself not only in their complicated publication histories and the novels themselves. I was immediately struck by their romantic and melodramatic plots, as well as the wide array of colorful characters, especially the women. The goal of this exhibit is to highlight some of these female characters, and it is an introduction, rather than a comprehensive guide, to an often underappreciated corner of American literary history.

Women and the World of Dime Novels was conceived and curated by Brenna Bychowski, a cataloger in the North American Imprints Program at the American Antiquarian Society. Her thanks are due especially to Alan Degutiis, for generously allowing time to complete the exhibit and for the original introduction to the dime novel collection back at the AAS.
All the dime novels discussed in this exhibit can be found in the American Antiquarian Society dime novel collection. The collection includes almost 1,000 examples of dime fiction, both in volumes bound by former owners and as loose paperbacks in their original wrappers. The AAS holdings represent a large selection of the publications of Beadle and Adams, as well as many of the minor publishing houses such as George Munro; Elliot, Thomes & Talbot; Hilton & Co.; Richmond and Company; and R.M. DeWitt. Cataloging of the collection is in progress with each item receiving detailed rare book cataloging. Only a handful of dime novels have received modern reprint editions, and many only exist as scarce or unique copies in the hands of collectors or in the holdings of rare book libraries. The following resources provide a more in-depth examination of the history of dime novels and the AAS dime novel collection:


This exhibit was born from a cataloging project. When I was assigned to catalog our collection of dime novels, I knew very little about them. In order to describe the novels properly in our catalog records, I immersed myself not only in their complicated publishing history, but also in the novels themselves, I was immediately struck by their romantic and melodramatic plotlines, as well.
Finding Element Information:
Browser 2 (Chrome)

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- *Nickels and Dimes: From the Collections of Johannsen and Leblanc*. An online dime novel project from Northern Illinois University.

This exhibit was born from a cataloging project to catalog our collection of dime novels, but also in the novels themselves. In order to describe the novels, I immersed myself not only in their content, but also in the novels themselves. I was immediately struck by their romantic and melodramatic plottines, as well as the wide array of colorful characters, especially the women. The goal of this exhibit is to highlight some of these female characters, and it is an introduction, rather than a comprehensive guide, to an often underappreciated corner of American literary history.

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Getting Fancy
The Goal:
Make the image pale when the cursor hovers over it

The CSS:
#home table img:hover {
  opacity:.5
}

The HTML (simplified):
<center>
<table width="85%" border="0">
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <td><span title="Explore the tropes"><img src="imagelink.jpg"></span></td>
      ...
    </tr>
    </tbody>
  </table>
</center>
The Goal:
Left justify the element titles and change the spacing

The CSS:
```
.items.show h3 {
  text-align:left;
  margin-bottom:5px;
  margin-top:10px
}
```
The Goal:
Move the search box so it doesn’t land on top of the site title

The CSS:
#search-container {
  position:absolute;
  display:block;
  top:0;
  right:0;
  padding-top:0;
  padding-bottom:1%;
  margin-right:0;
  margin-top:0;
  margin-bottom:0;
  float:right;
  width:100%;
  height:45px;
  background:#404040 none repeat scroll
}

#search-form {
  position:relative;
  width:32%;
  float:right;
  margin-top:1%;
  margin-right:1%
}
CSS References

Text
http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_text.asp

Font
http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_font.asp

Margin
http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_margin.asp

Padding
http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_padding.asp

Links
http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_link.asp