Cascading Style Sheets for Consistent Design and Conformity with the New NYS Accessibility Standards

Instructor: Joe Tandle, New York Interactive Media
Format: In-Person, Hands-On
Duration: Day 2 of a 2-Day Workshop
Prerequisite Knowledge: Prior experience developing or creating web pages using an editor or hand coding.

Description:

This is Day 2 of a 2-day workshop. Day 1 covers Practical Methods of Conforming to NYS Accessibility Standards. See Accessibility Standards Course Description. Conducted in partnership with the Northeast ADA and IT Center at Cornell University. The Northeast ADA and IT Center provides training, technical assistance and materials on the Americans with Disabilities Act and Accessible Information Technology throughout New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. For further information, visit the Northeast ADA & IT Center online.

This class will focus on creating Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Dreamweaver will be used to write code and also learn the syntax and grammar of hand coding CSS. The general focus will be to create web pages that are usable, good looking, consistent and accessible. You will feel comfortable with integrating fundamental CSS into your web pages at the end of this session.

Course Materials:

Reference Book: "CSS in 24 Hours" by Kynn Bartlett
Supplementary reference sheet and examples prepared by Instructor Joe Tandle

Course Outline:

- What is CSS
  - What CSS can do
  - What CSS can't do
- Creating Style Sheets
  - Naming conventions
  - Writing CSS rules
  - Simple properties for text formatting
  - Linking style sheet to HTML pages and templates
- Browsers
  - How browsers deal with CSS
  - Compatibility Chart
- Using CSS with HTML
  - Class attribute
  - ID attribute
  - ID selectors
  - Using the Class and ID selector
• Grouping selectors
• Pseudo-classes and pseudo elements

■ Cascading and Inheritance
• How the cascade works
• Using !important
• Importing CSS
• Inherited values

■ Fonts and Font Families
• Font-weight
• Font-variant
• Font-style
• Font-stretch
• Font-size-adjust
• Text colors
• Special text effects

■ Background and Background Colors
• Background images
• Background repeat
• Position
• Attachment

■ CSS for Links
• Active
• Hover
• Visited
• Focus
• Removing underlines
• Mouse over effects

■ Alignment and Spacing
• Align
• Indent
• Vertical align
• Borders and boxes

■ Formatting Lists
• Style type
• Style image
• Style position

■ Styling Tables
• HTML table model
• Table borders, padding and spacing
• Table captions
• Styling columns
• Horizontal and vertical alignment

■ Laying Out Pages with CSS
• Position property
• Context box
• Relative positioning
• Absolute and fixed
• Floating content

■ Principals of CSS Design with Websites
• Usability
• Knowing your audience
• Testing your site

■ Accessibility
• Aural CSS
• W3C’s accessibility guide
• How to read W3C recommendations
• Anatomy of the W3C specs
• CSS Level 1,2,3