

exercise::13^{EC}

Advanced CSS Formatting with Classes & IDs

Overview ::

Using Nova or other HTML text editor, apply basic type and content formatting using CSS to the provided HTML document. Use both the style options discussed in class as well as others you discover on your own. This exercise will focus on the use of *class* and *ID* selectors to specify which elements will be modified.

Process ::

To begin, download the exercise resources from the class website to your personal computer, and rename the folder `lastname_firstname_13`.

Use the CSS formatting options in conjunction with the **Tag**, **Class**, **ID**, and **Compound Styles** to modify the appearance of the newsletter.

» Tag Styles

Focus on altering structural **tags** first, establishing a base appearance to the elements:

- Header Elements (<h1>, <h2>, <h3>)
- Paragraph Elements (<p>)
- List Elements ()
- Strong (bold) and emphasis (italic) font styling (and)
- Table elements—sample code provided (<table>, <tr>, <td>)

» Descendant Styles

After you have modified the base elements, create Descendant Styles to alter the appearance of elements in different contexts. For example, to make the <h2> text in the header tag appear different than the rest of the page, create this compound selector: `header h2`.

This also works for anchor (<a>) tags: You can make the navigation links appear differently than the other links on the page by using this compound selector: `nav p a`.

» ID Styles

You will need to use a few selectors targeting IDs (in CSS they begin with a # sign) targeting one of the HTML elements that have ID's assigned to them. There are a number of elements that currently have ID's; you can also add ID's to other elements as well.

» Class Styles

There are a few elements that have Classes applied to them (in CSS they begin with a period [.]). In addition to these, create at least **one new CSS class** and apply it in at least three unique places within the page. Example uses include changing just the color of certain text or making text all caps. You could also change just the item measurements (left column) for the "In This Box" table.

Apply whatever formatting you wish: Font face, size, background color, color, borders, etc. to make the newsletter look as good as it can within a Web browser. This includes altering foreground and background colors, borders, padding and margins, and any other options in CSS you wish to explore. Experiment with them, working to create the best presentation you can.

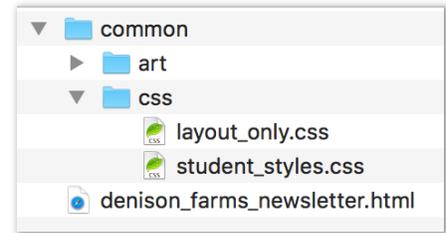
A long list of example CSS rules is provided in the external style sheet. Speaking of external sheets...

continued on the next page...

Where to Define Your CSS Styles ::

Create and refine your styles in the existing external styles sheet named `student_styles.css`.

The style sheet is located in the **common/css/** directory in the exercise resources folder. The style sheet is already linked to the HTML page. Be sure to examine the `<link>` code in the `<head>` of the HTML page to see how this is achieved.



There are actually two linked external style sheets: `student_styles.css` and `layout_only.css`. **Do not create or modify** styles within the `layout_only.css` file—these are styles used to create the basic page.

Requirements ::

When done, copy the exercise folder to your shared Drop Box on Google Drive for this class.

This exercise is for **Extra Credit** and due by the beginning of class on **Monday, March 9th, 2026** (Week 10).