Introduction to Web Design & Computer Principles
CSCI-UA 4

Forms
Receiving Information on a Web Page

Name

Email

Website

Submit
Web pages are good not just for providing information to visitors, but also gathering information from them.

The HTML `<form>` element is used to define a form for getting user input.

A variety of form elements are used to provide an interface for the input.

These form elements include text fields, checkboxes, drop-down menus, and buttons.
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CSCI-UA 4

Forms
Receiving Information on a Web Page
NYU Login
Login to NYUHome

Username

Password

LOGIN

By your use of these resources, you agree to abide by the Policy on Responsible Use of NYU Computers and Data.
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CSCI-UA 4

Forms
Receiving Information on a Web Page

charity: water
100% funds water projects

Email
Name
Street
City ZIP Code
United States

Give
<form action="my-script.php">
  First name:
  <input type="text" name="firstname">
  
  Last name:
  <input type="text" name="lastname">
  
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
Forms

HTML

Forms always begin with the `<form>` element.

The `<form>` element’s action attribute specifies how the form will be processed.

The `<input>` element is used for various kinds of user input.

The `<input>` element’s type attribute determines what kind of input is received from users.

Each `<input>` element must also have a name attribute and value in order for the data to be sent.
Before form data gets sent, it’s important to validate the input.

• You may want to make certain form fields required.

• You probably want to make sure that certain fields are completed properly.

• You should also verify that malicious code is not sent along with form input.

Form validation can be done client-side, server-side, or both.

We will use a jQuery validation plugin for simple client-side form validation.
Forms
Processing

Normally, forms are sent to the server to be processed.

This requires a server-side application written in a back-end language.

Since server-side coding is beyond the scope of this class, we will use a free service that receives form data and emails it to you.

Formspree is a project that allows us to easily add forms to otherwise static HTML pages.
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CSCI-UA 4

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