**Inserting and Working with Links**

***Understanding Links***

* A **hyperlink** is text or another web page element (ex: image) that users can select to open another document containing related content.
	+ Links enable you to integrate the contents of a Web site with anything available on the Web.
* Creating Links
	+ Enclose the text or other element you want to use as a link within an **<a> </a>** tag pair
		- Use the *href=”….”* attribute to specify the URL of the webpage, or filename of the document (known as the target document) you want to link to
		- By default, web links are certain colors
			* Unclicked link : blue
			* Visited link: purple
* Organizing Links
	+ **Navigation Bar** – the design element that includes a set of links for navigating between pages in a Web site.
		- Usually appears near the top or along the sides of the web page
		- A nav bar should maintain the same location and appearance on every page in a Web site to give users a reliable way to move between pages
		- Some larger pages use additional navigation that scrolls the user’s screen to a section of the current page (linking to anchors)
* Referencing Web sources
	+ Web pages and other documents available on the Web can be referred to using a **Uniform Resource Locator** (URL). This is also known as a Web address.
		- http://www.glhsbusiness.weebly.com/web-design.html
	+ URLs consist of three parts
		- Scheme – the way that computers ask for and communicate about the server name and path (http://)
		- Server name – identifies the general location of the target document on the web
		- Path – the sequence of folders in which the target document is stored on the server

***Creating Relative Links***

* **Relative Links** – gives the path and filename information necessary to locate the target document based on the location of the current page
* Used when you are linking to other pages you created that are stored within your site folder
	+ <a href=”filename.html”> Text or element the user sees as a link </a>

***Creating Absolute Links***

* **Absolute Links** – gives the URL for the target document on the Web
* Used when you are linking to a page already created and available on the Web
	+ <a href=”http://www.website.com”>Text or element the users sees as a link</a>

***Styling Links with CSS Pseudo-Classes***

* Using CSS pseudo-classes, you can create CSS styles to change the format of a link depending on which state it is in
* A **pseudo-class** is a categorization of a Web page element, but it is based on a relationship or condition of the element at a given moment, rather that on a static property value
	+ **Pseudo-class states for linked elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **pseudo-class** | **applies to** |
| a:link | Link that has been visited, does not currently have the mouse pointer over it, and is not being clicked |
| a:visited | Link to a document that has already been viewed |
| a:hover | Link that the mouse pointer is currently over |
| a:active | Link that is currently being clicked |

***Opening Links in New Windows or Tabs***

* By default, a link opens a new Web page in the same window and tab as the source page. In certain situations, you want to be able to open Web pages in a new window or tab.
	+ Control where a link opens by including the target attribute of the <a> element with a value of “\_blank”
		- <a href=”filename.html” target=”\_blank”>

***Linking to Anchors***

* Sometimes it is useful to link to locations within the current Web page.
	+ Instead of linking to URLs or filenames, you link to named locations, known as **anchors**, within the current document
		- Create anchors by assigning unique names to elements in your Web page using the HTML id attribute.
			* <h1 id=”top”>Heading in the document</h1>
		- To reference the anchor with the href attribute, simply precede it with a pound sign (#, hash tag)
			* <a href=”#top”>Link to top</a>

***Creating a Link to a document***

* Sometimes it is useful to create a link to another type of document, not just a Web page, such as a .pdf document
	+ Place the document in your folder
	+ < a href=”documentname.pdf”> Text or element user sees to use as a link </a>