

XML Namespaces Lecture

Goals:

- want to share elements from different XML schemas
- problem: namespace collisions for XML elements having the same name
 - example: different meaning of “day” across domains

General form

xmlns:identifier={URL or URN}

Example:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<bk:book xmlns:bk='urn:loc.gov:books'
  xmlns:isbn='urn:ISBN:0-395-36341-6'>
  <bk:title>Cheaper by the Dozen</bk:title>
  <isbn:number>1568491379</isbn:number>
</bk:book>
```

Namespace defaulting

A default namespace is considered to apply to the element where it is declared (if that element has no namespace prefix), and to all elements with no prefix within the content of that element.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!-- unprefix element types are from "books" -->
<book xmlns='urn:loc.gov:books'
  xmlns:isbn='urn:ISBN:0-395-36341-6'>
  <title>Cheaper by the Dozen</title>
  <isbn:number>1568491379</isbn:number>
</book>
```