



**Module Leader: Ms. Asini Silva**

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| **Module Code & Name** | 5COSC026W - Advanced Client-Side Development |
| **Coursework Title** | Portfolio ( Diary) |
| **Student Name** | Isuri Alwis |
| **Student ID** | 20232660 |
| **Tutorial Group** | 22 |

1. **Development Diary**

5COSC026W Portfolio: Development Diary

**Student:** Isuri Alwis (20232660*)*  
 **Project:** Personal Portfolio Website

**Part 1: Project Timeline & Notes**

**Week 1:**

Oct 1, 2025 (Wed)

* **Planning:** Started the coursework. Decided on a 4-page site: index.html, about.html, projects.html, and contact.html.
* **Theme:** Chosen a "cyber-neon" theme. Main colors will be dark blue (--bg-dark), cyan (--accent-cyan), and mauve (--accent-pink)

Oct 3, 2025 (Fri)

* HTML Structure: Created the four main HTML files.
* **Semantics:** Built the main layout in all files using semantic HTML: <header>, <nav>, <main>, <aside>, and <footer>.
* **Accessibility:** Added the base HTML for the .skip-link.
* **Fonts:** Added the <link> for my chosen Google Font (‘Poppins’) to the <head> as well. This meets (B.1).

Oct 4, 2025 (Sat)

* **Small Task:** Styled the .skip-link on :focus. A quick but important accessibility feature.

Oct 5, 2025 (Sun)

* **Asset Selection:** Finalized bg\_home.jpg (Home page) and bg\_other.jpg (other pages).
* Selected profile3.jpg as profile photo. Decided on the three social media links for the <aside> bar.

Oct 6, 2025 (Mon)

* **CSS Setup:** Created styles.css.
* **Global Setup:** Added the \* universal reset. Set up :root CSS variables for all theme colors.
* **Sticky Footer:** Implemented a sticky footer using display: flex on body and flex: 1 on main.

**Week 2: Core Layout & Home Page**

Oct 8, 2025 (Wed)

* **Layout Styling:** Styled the <header> (fixed position, backdrop-filter) and <aside> (fixed position).
* **Used padding-right:** var(--aside-width) on the body to create the "slot" for the sidebar.

Oct 10, 2025 (Fri)

* **Navigation:** Styled the main nav links.
* **Social Links:** Styled the <aside> social links.
* **Button:** Styled the global .btn class.

Oct 11, 2025 (Sat)

* **Home Page (Hero):** Styled the hero text. Used clamp() for a responsive font size.
* **Gradient Text:** Styled .site-title with a linear-gradient and background-clip: text.
* **Animation:** Added the glowPulse @keyframes animation to the .hero-profile

Oct 13, 2025 (Mon)

* **Small Task:** Added background-attachment: fixed to the main background images (.about-bg, etc.) to create a simple parallax effect.

**Week 3: Content Pages**

Oct 15, 2025 (Wed)

* **About Page (v1):** Built the first version of about.html. Used a CSS grid to lay out skills.
* **Pseudo-element:** Added the "Languages" section and created the glowing dot on the progress bars using .progress-bar-fill: :after.

Oct 16, 2025 (Thu)

* **Small update:** While building the About page, I realized the lists looked boring.
* **Decision:** Decided to add icons for each (like Java, Python, etc.).
* **Action:** Added the Font Awesome CDN <link> to the <head> of all HTML files. This will let me easily add icons across the whole site, especially for the skills list and footer.

Oct 17, 2025 (Fri)

* **Projects Page (v1):** Built the first version of projects.html using a CSS grid.
* **HTML:** Added the <time datetime="..."> element to the projects to meet the (Part A) requirement.

Oct 20, 2025 (Mon)

* **Contact Page:** Built contact.html and styled the form, including the :invalid and :valid states.

Oct 22, 2025 (Wed)

* **Initial Footer:** Added the <footer> element with a simple copyright paragraph.

**Week 4: Refactoring & Responsive**

Oct 25, 2025 (Sat)

* **Refactor Decision:** The grid layouts on the About and Projects pages had too much code. Replaced them with simple, stacked .about-container and .project-container classes. This makes the HTML and CSS much simpler to read for the ICT.

Oct 26, 2025 (Sun)

* **Refactor (About Page):** The combined "Interests & Hobbies" container felt too long. Broke them into two separate .about-container divs ("Interests" and "Hobbies") for better page balance.

Oct 28, 2025 (Tue)

* **Responsiveness (v1):** Added the first pass of responsive styles using @media queries. Stacked content and set containers to width: 100% for better user experience and SEO accessibility.

Oct 30, 2025 (Thu)

* **Small edit:** The social link icons in the <aside> were cyan. Changed them to --accent-pink to better match the theme I’m moving towards.

**Week 5: Final Parts**

Oct 31, 2025 (Fri)

* **Refactor (Footer):** Upgraded the simple <footer> to a 3-column layout with Navigation and Contact info.
* **Color Change:** Changed all main headings (h2, .headline-strong) from --accent-cyan to --accent-pink. The pink gives a softer, more professional "neon" feel.

Nov 1, 2025 (Sat)

***Final Features:***

* Added the .scroll-down-arrow to the Home and About pages.
* Applied the bounce @keyframes animation to it (multi-step animations)
* Fix: Realized hover effects were instant. Added the transition property to .btn, nav a.nav-link, and .project-container to make all hover effects smooth.

Nov 2, 2025 (Sun)

***Responsiveness (v2 - Final):***

* **Challenge:** The aside sidebar had an ugly background and gap on mobile.
* **Solution:** Fixed it by setting background: none, backdrop-filter: none, border: none, and padding: 0 on the aside inside the @media (max-width: 900px) query. This makes it stack

perfectly. Flexible Layout with responsive images and proper media queries. (changed layout/styles based on device width)

Nov 3, 2025 (Mon)

* **Final Code Review:** Ran the HTML through a validator. Found and fixed a typo ("Octorber") and a datetime mismatch in projects.html.

Nov 4, 2025 (Tue)

* **Final Preperation:** Project is code-complete. Compiling the final Word document (Part E) with screenshots, all 4 HTML files, the styles.css file, and this diary. Ready for submission.

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| **Date** | **Req.** | **Requirement** | **Implementation & Justification** |
| Oct 6 | **B.1** | Fonts | Used @import in styles.css for Google Fonts ('Poppins'). |
| Oct 6 | **B.2** | Semi-transparent | Added rgba(...) colors to :root (e.g., --bg-light-trans) for container backgrounds. |
| Oct 8 | **B.3** | Shadows | Applied box-shadow to the <header>. Also used on .hero-profile & .btn:hover. |
| Oct 11 | **B.4** | Text effects | Used background-clip: text on .site-title for a gradient text effect. |
| Oct 10 | **B.5** | Attribute selectors (2) | 1. .social-links > li > a[target="\_blank"]  2.input[type="email"]:focus (Oct 20) |
| Oct 15 | **B.6** | Pseudo-element | Used .progress-bar-fill::after to create the glowing dot on the language bars. |
| Oct 4 | **B.7** | User action | Used .skip-link:focus. Also :hover on all buttons, links, and containers. |
| Oct 10 | **B.8** | Child combinator | Used .social-links > li > a to style links directly inside the list. |
| Oct 25 | **B.9** | Structural selector | Added .simple-list li:last-child to remove margin-bottom from the last item. |
| Oct 10 | **B.10** | Negation | Used nav a.nav-link:not(.active-page):hover to style non-active links. |
| Oct 17 | **B.11** | Nth pseudo-class | Used .project-container:nth-child(even) to alternate the border color. |
| Oct 20 | **B.12** | Validity | Used input:invalid and input:valid on the contact form for live validation. |
| Oct 11 | **B.13** | Relational selector | Used .headline + .lead on the home page to style the intro text. |
| Oct 8 | **B.14** | Border | Applied border-bottom to <header> and border-left to <aside>. |
| Oct 10 | **B.15** | Rounded corners | Used border-radius on the .btn class for a pill shape. |
| Oct 10 | **B.16** | Gradient | Used linear-gradient on the .btn class and .site-title. |
| Oct 10 | **B.17** | Transforms | Used transform: translateY(-4px) on .btn:hover for the lift effect. |
| Nov 1 | **B.18** | Transitions | Added transition to .btn, nav a.nav-link, etc., to make hover effects smooth. |
| Oct 11 | **B.19** | Animations | Added glowPulse @keyframes for hero image. (Nov 1) Added bounce for scroll arrow. |
| Oct 20 | **B.20** | Specificity | Used #send-btn.btn (ID + class) for a high-specificity selector on the form button. |
| Oct 6 | **B.21** | Comments | Used clear, structured comments throughout styles.css. |