Course Project

Out To Lunch

July 7th, 2020

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DMIT 2504

Lab Discussion

**How long did it take you to complete the lab?**

This lab took me about 2 weeks to complete with heavier emphasis towards the last couple days. The amount of time spent to watch Youtube video tutorials and read documentation was about equal to the time spent coding.

**Were there any difficulties in completing the lab?**

The most difficult part of this lab was trying to research and find best practices for implementation. Google Maps API has been updated in the last few years and there are still not as many video tutorials out there as I would like to demo/ help me visualize and understand the new knowledge. Some objects/ methods are deprecated but can still work. (e.g. FusedLocationAPI, GoogleAPIClient) There were some trial and error methods involved. I was not able to save GPS coordinates through normal means, but it was possible by storing it in the shared preferences.

**Was there any knowledge you learned or improved on?**

New things I learned:

- how to set up and use Google Maps API & Google Places API  
- how to create and set a RotateAnimation  
- how to create and set a custom adapter for a GoogleInfoWindow  
- using GoogleMaps MarkerOptions  
- how to request user permissions  
- how to use the MapsActivity and implementing the required methods  
- how to get the last location from a FusedLocationProviderClient  
- how to move the GoogleMaps camera to a new location  
- intro to tasks and async tasks

Improvements:

- practice using relative layout  
- practice creating image assets  
- setting different Toast positions  
- working with JSON data/ manually parsing JSON  
- debugging  
- getting and storing shared preferences

Although I can sometimes figure out how to implement a desired function, I find that there are still many things I do not understand in terms of what is truly happening behind the scenes. Hopefully with time, more reading of documentation and more practice, I can become more knowledgeable.