Felix Tordeich-Mcmullin

Assignment One Report

In this assignment we were given the task of replicating a website for a popular anime/ video game franchise using a CSS framework called Bootstrap 4. Initially we were given the task of creating a similar website using a combination of HTML elements and Bootstrap 4 classes without writing any CSS. Once we had created the layout for our website using the appropriate Bootstrap 4 framework we then moved onto more complex tasks involving fetching and inputting JSON and AJAX data into out website through JavaScript and using these in more advanced features in Bootstrap 4 such as modals.

1. **What were your experiences using Bootstrap? How effective is the documentation, and other aids? Is there anything that was easier than you expected? Harder?**

- My experiences using Bootstrap were very positive as a whole. I found that the tutorial site called 'w3schools.com' was very informative and helpful with learning the fundamentals of Bootstrap CSS classes ranging from the very basic containers, grids and tables to the more advanced classes including cards, modals and 'navs' to name a few. I found that all the material throughout this website was very easy to read, follow and understand with all classes and variants of the same classes containing relevant descriptions and examples to see first hand, how these classes can be implemented into our HTML code. I found it especially useful being able to see clear examples of the code being implemented as well as being able to open a window of how the code looks on our own browser. Surprisingly, I found that I did not need to search for any other aids in learning Bootstrap 4 as I found that all the relevant information given to me from 'w3schools.com' was sufficient enough to grasp the concept of the classes I needed to use and provided enough material for me to complete the necessary tasks. I was however surprised I didn't need to look into other sources of material such as youtube tutorials and videos, where I thought this could well have been a possibility for me. Although, the assignment as a whole was not easy, I found that the earlier CSS classes used in the earlier tasks of the assignment were relatively straight forward, easy to follow and simple to carry out. Where I found it harder, was using Javascript to input certain data into our table, card and buttons using the appropriate URL. I eventually was able to complete the tasks but I found myself reading over past modules more closely in order to complete these tasks.

2. **Compare and contrast Bootstrap with writing your own CSS. What are the benefits and drawbacks of each approach?**

- I found the main benefits of using a CSS framework such as Bootstrap where that the framework already has predefined terms implemented in its code, and so you have the easy ability to use these codes without having to design them from scratch, which would take a lot more time and effort. CSS framework also maintains its synergy across all pages and websites to create a more stream lined look so the developer does not need to individually tweak all the pages in order to look the same. The bootstrap framework is also supports the majority of all web browsers and and devices such as laptops, tvs and mobile devices. It is customisable and has responsive structures to fit developers needs. It too includes many JavaScripts plugins and loads of free templates online and themes for other developers to use and further customise. Along with the many benefits

of using Bootstrap, there are also a few drawbacks that come from using it as a developer as follows. Because Bootstrap has a set standard of coding it can restrict a developers design, where if you wanted to further customise your website and coding it would require a lot more time and you would have to learn new frameworks in order to achieve this. So the main problem with using these frameworks are the customisation limitations that come with using it and the need to do further customisation and coding in order to create a unique design rather than using the same framework that could be used for other websites.