

Lappeenranta teknillinen yliopisto

Software Development Skills Front-End, Online course

Heikki Mustonen, <Insert student number here>

LEARNING DIARY, FRONT-END MODULE

Course material repo: <https://github.com/HeikkiMustonen/course-stuff>

Course material deployed: <https://heikkimustonen.github.io/course-stuff/>

My own project repo: <https://github.com/HeikkiMustonen/sass-own-project>

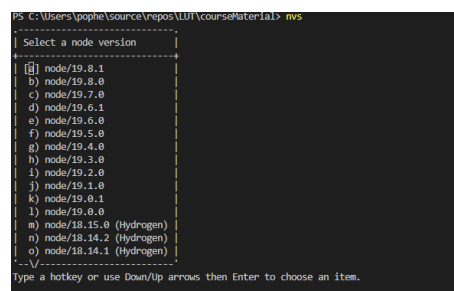
My own project is deployed: <https://heikkimustonen.github.io/sass-own-project/>

Date : 15.3.2023

Activity : Video 1. Setting up environment

I haven't used my personal PC for node/java development for a while. Had to refresh how to move about thing and it is surprising, how much you forget, if you haven't done it for a while.

I encountered problems with installing node-sass. Since my node and npm were both several versions behind, I had to update them both before node-sass would install properly. No problem, but updating node can be a pain, specially when working on Windows. Or it might be, if you don't read to tiny text in nvm(node version manager in npm) readme. There is an app called nvs that takes care of swicthing node versions without pain. It even comes with nice menu for selecting.



PS C:\Users\pophe\source\repos\UI\course\material> nvs

```

Select a node version
a) node/19.8.1
b) node/19.8.0
c) node/19.7.0
d) node/19.6.1
e) node/19.6.0
f) node/19.5.0
g) node/19.4.0
h) node/19.3.0
i) node/19.2.0
j) node/19.1.0
k) node/19.0.1
l) node/19.0.0
m) node/18.15.0 (Hydrogen)
n) node/18.14.2 (Hydrogen)
o) node/18.14.1 (Hydrogen)
--V--
type a hotkey or use Down/Up arrows then Enter to choose an item.
```

Nvs in action!

Everything so far I've done before, but it is nice to start new project in bare bones and refresh memory about everything.

Date : 17.3.2023

Activity : Checking things

I Had some leisure time so decided to open the project. When I tried to run the sass-script, I got an error, that I was still using node 12.x version. It turned out, that nvm was not able to set the default node version correctly. I Tried couple of things with it and decided, that this isn't working. Solution was to install Nvm from an executable and it was all done. Sometimes it is just better to look for a new tool, if the old one isn't working. Or not to change tool, if the old one is working.

Started to watch the second video. Noticed that using snippet with "element-tag.some-class-name" could be used to quickly create basic html-elements. I haven't used these snippets before, so that was cool to learn.

Measurements got a bit clearer for me. What rem is, how is it related to html's fontsize. How vh and wh work.

Learning outcome: what did I learn

Date : 20.3.2023

Activity : Video 3

File order when using mixins seems to be important and easy to miss. Also, when written html class names, I should be more awake. Sometimes autofill will fill things that you thought were ok but notice afterwards they were off by kilometers.

Never before I have used element.classList.x. Bit surprised, that it has never crossed my path, but live and learn. Happy to find a new way to manipulate elements directly. I have used ctrl+d in VS Code before, but that is not in my muscle memory. It is something that would be nice to come without thinking.

Refreshing my memory how to work with nth-child was needed. Haven't really dived into world of transforms and don't have a clear picture how to work with them. It would be nice to use them with ease. Powerful stuff to impress any clients!

Date : 24.3.2023

Activity : Video 4

Haven't seen this &-itemName syntax before. Neat trick to do things in a shorter way. Fixed an html related bug in nav links. It came to me that I would benefit from some kind of html tag colorizer. Looked for one in extensions and voila.

```

12     <li class="nav-item">
13       <a href="/contact.html" class="nav-link">
14         How To Reach Me
15       </a>
16     </li>
17   </ul>
18 </div>
19 </nav>
20 </header>
21 <main id="home">
22   <h1 class="lg-heading">Heikki
23     <span class="text-secondary">höpönen</span>
24   </h1>
25   <h2 class="sm-heading">Developer, pirate and a world class lover</h2>
26   <div class="icons">
27     <a href="#">
28       <i class="fa-brands fa-twitter fa-2x"></i>
29     </a>
30     <a href="#">
31       <i class="fa-brands fa-facebook fa-2x"></i>
32     </a>
33     <a href="#">
34       <i class="fa-brands fa-linkedin fa-2x"></i>
35     </a>
36     <a href="#">
37       <i class="fa-brands fa-github fa-2x"></i>
38     </a>
39   </div>
40 </main>
41 <script src="../../js/main.js"></script>
42 </body>
43 </html>

```

I rarely work head on with html, but these colors are super useful. I need to search for extensions more often. If I can think of a problem in my view, that occurs often, there probably is some tool for tackling it.

Also haven't used @mixins. I need to read the effing manual for that. Also media queries are a bit difficult at the moment. There was a lot of stuff in this video four and I need to digest it a bit more. Probably I need to go it over once more when I am rested. Fatigu is not your companion when doing ATK-stuff.

Date : 25.7.2023

Activity : Video 5, video 6 and deployment

It is hard to start working in a project, when it has been "resting" couple of months. Had to do my thesis and other stuff and this course got sidelined. Now getting back is hard and I have to relearn some stuff, but it is manageable.

In this video 5. the tutor is showing how to work on sass functions. It seen usable and a good way to customize styles. Writing a new js script would be harder to implement and this way basic settings can be handled easily.

I have worked with grids for a long time and still don't like them. I mean, they just sometimes give you headaches that are uncalled for. Working with grids from sass is different than working with grid components from frameworks like material UI. Material UI is "heavier" in many ways but can make grid structure more visible and easier to work with.

Got everything done and tried to publish to github. That didn't work as expected. Console tells me, that everything went according to the plan and project got published but I still get 404 from the <https://heikkimustonen.github.io/course-stuff/>. It has been a while since a last used github pages and I have a hunch that it took a while for the first deployment to be online. Maybe I let this rest for now and check the pages again tomorrow.

Found out that deployment got problems from the incorrect folder structure. I had left js-folder out of the dist-folder so it was not included. I moved that and also noticed that had a little bug in my toggleMenu function. Fixed that, made a commit and deployed again. Not everything should be in order. This little bumb on the road reminded me how important it is to have correct structure from the start. It might be fixable later, but it takes much more work to deal with those afterwards.

Date:27.7.2023

Activity: own project

I had started my own project months ago, so today I didn't have to start from a scratch. I had a basic set up, but today I really started working on it. First I got some stylings done to 'cards' and that reminded me how hard it is to rememeber all the dependencies between elements. How parents affect to children etc. Having thing aligned and justified as I wanted was harder that I expected. Again. It always is. Got somewhat what I wanted and then moved to grid. Grid works, but not as I wanted. I could have made it more polished, but time is not on my side. Sometimes you have to use your resources, like time, wisely. Do not spend it all in one problem.

I had to use the video project as a template to make things responsive. Many times using templates and searching for examples is more time efficient than using try and fail technic. I didn't spend to the whole project that much time. I am pleased, that I got things rolling and could just work onwards, even though front end is not my favorite things to do. This course was a pretty good refreshener for all things related to front end development.

