Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Engineering Sciences.

Software Development Skills Front-End, Online course

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Learning Diary,

Module: Introduction and Base HTML MODULE

Date: July 4, 2025

Activity: Introduction and Base HTML – Followed video tutorial and set up the project

Learning outcome:

I cloned the project's zip file from the Git repository linked in the video description and explored the images inside VS Code. Using Figma.com, I got a good feel for the UI layout and exported the necessary assets. I created my own index.html file and learned about the structure of a webpage, the head and body sections. I also explored fonts on Google Fonts and imported icons from cdnjs.com using Font Awesome. Although I already had VS Code installed, I added the Live Server extension to view real-time changes in the browser.

Module: Links and Core CSS MODULE

Date: July 4, 2025
Activity: Built homepage HTML, wrote core CSS and learned about variables

Learning outcome:
In this module, I focused on styling the webpage with CSS to make it look clean and organized. I learned some fundamental CSS rules like setting box-sizing: border-box to simplify sizing, and resetting default margins and padding to zero for a consistent layout. I styled the body with the 'Poppins' font from Google Fonts, set a readable font size and line height, and gave the background a clean white color. I also learned how to remove default list styles from unordered lists and make images responsive by limiting their max width to 100%.A big takeaway was understanding utility classes like .container which helped me

center content with a max width of 1100px and padding on the sides, making the layout look balanced on different screen sizes. I experimented with the navbar's main menu, using display: flex on the ul to create a horizontal navigation bar. This was really useful for creating a modern, responsive design.

Buttons & Utility Classes

Date: July 5, 2025

Activity: Styled buttons, utility classes, hero section, and layout elements

Learning outcome:

I learned how to create a reusable .btn class with padding, rounded corners, and smooth hover effects. The video used a light background for styling, but I decided to experiment a bit. I went with a bold orange tone to give the layout a cyberpunk kind of vibe. It actually made the button pop out more on my dark-themed monitor.I also added variations like .btn-light, played with custom color variables, and explored some additional icons to test how flexible the layout can be. In the hero section, I used .text-xxl and .text-xl utility classes to experiment with different typography scales. I even tried resizing the hero area to see how the layout adjusts responsively. While following the structure in the video, I also customized the testimonial section slightly and added my own sample content to get a better sense of layout spacing and flow.

CSS Grid & Cards

Date: July 5, 2025
Activity: Building content cards using CSS Grid and designing pricing layout

Learning outcome:

In this module, I worked on creating the pricing section and really got to dive into CSS Grid. I followed along with the video at first, then added my own twist. Instead of sticking with just one card style, I played around and added multiple pricing cards to experiment with layout symmetry and font balance.I explored some new fonts from Google Fonts just to see how they'd affect the overall vibe. I also adjusted the spacing and padding for a cleaner, more modern look.

FAQ Elements

Date: July 6, 2025
Activity: Created FAQ accordion, styled the section, and built a custom footer

Learning outcome:

This part was about bringing interactivity into the page — and it was pretty cool! I learned how to build a full FAQ section with an expanding accordion feature. The video walked through the basics, but I decided to tweak things a bit to match my own design vibe.I added extra top and bottom padding to make the FAQ section feel more spacious. To make the questions stand out, I grouped them with borders to separate each item clearly. The cursor in the video was set to pointer, but I switched it up and used something that fit my orange cyberpunk theme better — subtle but effective!After that, I added a custom footer. Instead of keeping it simple like in the video, I made mine bold with a full black background. I placed my own version of a main menu inside the FAQ section just above the footer

Mobile Menu & Responsiveness

Date: July 6, 2025
Activity: Built responsive layout with mobile navigation

Learning outcome:

In this final module, I worked on making the entire website responsive for mobile devices. This was the part where everything I had built needed to adjust and stack properly across smaller screens. I focused on understanding how media queries work and how to tweak styles based on different screen widths. I learned how to implement a hamburger menu and style the hamburger button so that it only shows on smaller screens. At first, I faced some layout issues where the top menu wasn't aligned correctly, but after experimenting with display properties and breakpoints, I managed to make it look clean and user-friendly. One thing I really enjoyed here was customizing the behavior and appearance of the mobile menu to better match my chosen color theme. I didn't just follow the video exactly. I made small adjustments where I thought something could look better. By the end of this module, I felt much more confident in creating responsive designs. I even went back and reviewed the entire project to see if I could rebuild it from scratch without needing the video. That revision gave me the idea and motivation to start building my own anime-themed website, applying all the skills I've learned in my own creative way.

Final project
Date: July 7, 2025

For my final project, I made a responsive one-page website using just HTML, CSS, and JavaScript—all packed into a single index.html file. I kept everything together like this to make editing and testing way easier. In the <head>, I put all my CSS inside a <style> tag where I customized layouts, colors, fonts, and used media queries to make sure the site works great on any screen size. The site has a navigation bar with a hamburger menu for smaller screens, a hero section with big, bold text and call-to-action buttons, a pricing section built with CSS Grid, and an FAQ that works like an accordion, opening and closing answers. I also added a footer with social links and contact info. One cool feature I added was a custom anime-style cursor effect. Using JavaScript, I tracked mouse movement with document.addEventListener('mousemove', ...) and created a small glowing dot that follows the cursor, fading out and growing slightly before disappearing, thanks to setTimeout(). To improve user experience, I made internal links scroll smoothly when clicked, instead of jumping instantly, and on smaller screens, clicking a nav link automatically closes the mobile menu by removing the 'active' class, keeping things neat. Styling-wise, I went for a strong anime vibe. I started with a CSS reset using * { margin: 0; padding: 0; box-sizing: border-box; } to keep things consistent. The navbar uses a translucent dark background with a cool blur effect (backdrop-filter: blur(10px)) and bright orange highlights (border-bottom: 2px solid #ff8906). The links have subtle hover effects and an animated underline using ::after. The hero section has this awesome rotating gradient background animated with @keyframes animeBg, and the big title text uses a gradient with background-clip: text and transparent fill for a cool glowing look.