

Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto
School of Business and Management

Software Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY, MOBILE 2024-25 MODULE

LEARNING DIARY

20.11.2024

Today I read through the important course and set up information. I only really needed to download Android Studio, as I already had everything else needed ready due to previous course on my studies. I started following the example video and ran into some initial issues which persisted throughout the day. As the example video at this point is quite old it uses a vastly older version of Android Studio than the one I am use and it caused me to run into some errors particularly stemming from the creation part of the project. If one follows the video step by step, it results in the new version of Android Studio creating a Kotlin or Groovy project which understandably uses quite different syntax. I tried reformatting the project to Java after creation, but this resulted in other issues. I might have to result in doing the project in Kotlin unless I find an alternative solution.

21.11.2024

I discovered a solution to the problem. When creating the project instead of an “empty activity”, we pick the “empty views activity” option, which lets us choose the language to be Java. This enabled me to follow the video example better again and I was able to launch the functioning app without issues as now that the project works I found following instructions quite simple. I created a repository of the project and then shared it to my GitHub as instructed on the course.

As for learning so far a lot of the information feels familiar as I have some prior experience in Java coding as well as XML, although the XML file is formatted through the design layout view. Debugging is also quite familiar to me at this point, but the video gives a clear and good example as to how to do it in Android studio. Overall, the information was quite useful and a good first step in working on mobile app development.

24.11.2024

Learning about activities from the second video today. Seemed quite simple overall. I ran into more issues that I believe to be related to the fact of the video's version of Android Studio being older than mine. In this case I needed to add an extra snippet of code to the AndroidManifest.xml file so that the app has permission to query targeted activities such other installed apps (in this case google). I was unable to get the app to open any site beforehand until I added the query permission snippet to the manifest file. Other than the small mishap everything seemed to have worked fine, and I learned a fair amount of new information.

1.12.2024

The last part of video learning before I properly continue my actual project work went rather well compared to the last two times, where I ran into major time-consuming issues. The video was much longer but the information was straight forward and to the point. The programming portions were at a more major part, and I felt that I got a good amount of new knowledge out of it.

4.12.2024

Today I started properly working on my own project. The first task I decided to do was to change the project so that the calculator activity I had created through the examples was changed to be a part of its own activity, which can be accessed through the main one. As it is still very much like the example. One I intend to add other math options to the activity to add to the activity's function. Additionally, I plan to add accessibility to other activities to the main one, but I shall get to those after I finish the math activity.

5.12.2024

I decided to add a bit of flair to the calculator activity to add some personality. I changed the calculator to be a fully functioning calculator instead of just adding two numbers together. Now it can use operators like multiply and divide and clear the results when needed. This took a while, but I felt it was a nice addition. I also added some stylization. Some minor issues while creating the buttons, but nothing major to halt my progress.

9.12.2024

Today was a quick session of creating a button in the main activity that takes you to a new activity that has a list of buttons in which each button has a link attached to it which takes the user to a search engine. Using the example video as a base I ran into only minor a few issues. As I have combined the list and link portions of the project I will come up with something else for the one or two other activities.

13.12.2024

I ended up making an activity which has a list of people, their picture and their information. I ran into some issues when making new classes which caused the project to crash on startup, but it didn't take long to fix thankfully. I think I want to create my last activity to be one where the user has to login in with certain parameters before they can access a page. I shall tackle it tomorrow or when I next have time to continue the project.

15.12.2024

I added an activity that enables a login function in which the person may login to another page by giving a name and password that meet certain requirements, which are nothing major in this case. The actual page doesn't have much as it is more to have the functionality itself of the login. I think this will be the last activity in my project and I feel that it has been very inspiring learning to use the android studio platform more. I shall end my project tomorrow by making the readme file and adding comments to the functionality of my project in the actual files as well.

16.12.2024

Today I finished the work for my project and although the functionality seems rather simple to me at least I think it works well. I added comments about functionality and completed the README.md file. I also added the two test projects I made through following the videos, to the repository. I had a 3rd one, but I turned that one into the actual project. Over all I think I learned a good amount of new information and I think the project turned out alright.