Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

Software Development Skills Front-end, Online course

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LEARNING DIARY, SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SKILLS FRONT-END

I chose to do this course in a way that all the work was done towards the final project, so all the exercise projects were done in a way that fits my project.

The course assignments were done on the home tab and the recipes tab is my project work. This way I was able to make a bit more advanced website compared to if I had started my project work from an empty canvas.

**Date :** 13.8.2025

**Activity :** Environment setup, learning principles of responsive website design and project start

I already know a bit about front-end development so setting up the environment was really straight forward for me. I just made a directory with all the basic necessities for a working website project. I also chose to make my project website a recipe browser. It was good to have a revision about the basic principles of responsive and visually pleasing website design.

**Learning outcome:** Revision of setting up the environment and front-end design basics.

**Date :** 13.8.2025

**Activity :** Project homepage and core CSS creation

Made the basic structure for the website which means especially the navbar at this stage. The navbar is the main way of navigation through my website so it is important to focus on the implementation. The second thing I made was the core CSS. I haven’t ever done a styleseheet with this much detail but now having done so it totally makes sense to do it that way. The HTML stays much more clean with more detail in CSS. It is also so much easier to scale up the whole website.

**Learning outcome:** Making a more in depth CSS stylesheet makes the whole project more easy to scale and makes responsive design easier

**Date :** 14.8.2025

**Activity:** Button styles, hero section, and content sections setup

I created reusable button styles with different variations. I also styled the navbar more precisely. I also built the homepage hero section with a headline, paragraph, and action button as well as responsive utility classes for text sizing.

**Learning outcome:** The clearly structured design style with the CSS utility classes is REALLY helpful for developing web front end.

**Date:** 14.8.2025

**Activity:** Testimonials + pricing grid and styling

Made the grid style testimonials section for the home tab. Once again a very structured approach with CSS was used which would become very beneficial later if the website was developed further. Also made the two options for a pricing plan with the grid system in a similar way to the testimonials one. Will be using the grid style approach in the recipes tab also for my project.

**Learning outcome:** Revision of how the grid style CSS works and what are the strengths in using that.

**Date:** 16.8.2025

**Activity:** FAQ section with HTML, CSS and JavaScript + Footer with navigation

I made the FAQ section below the pricing area, starting with HTML, CSS and JavaScript for the functionalities. The answers were only displayed if the open class was applied. The FAQ menu was styled with CSS. The next step was adding JavaScript to toggle the open class dynamically when a question is clicked so that the corresponding answer expands or collapses. Also added a footer with navigation to the page. Adding the footer was quite straightforward since similar things have already been done throughout these assignments.

**Learning outcome:** I learned how to combine HTML, CSS and JavaScript for creating an accordion style FAQ section that looks visually pleasing.

**Date:** 17.8.2025

**Activity:** Mobile responsiveness with media queries

I made 3 different media queries for 3 different screen widths (computer screen, smaller screen and mobile). This ensures that when the website is used with smaller screen sizes it is still going to look visually pleasing and that the usability of the website is easy. In the mobile version the navbar is made to pop out after pressing a “hamburger button”. Also made the cards in the testimonials and pricing stack to fit the screen better in the mobile version. Made the headings of the sections centered and the footer texts centered.

**Learning outcome:** I learned how to make the website responsive in smaller screen sizes with the media queries. It was quite straightforward because the whole structure of the website is very… structured so you only had to change a few styles to make the whole site responsive.

**Project work**

**Date:** 23.8.2025

**Activity:** Created the recipes tab for the project

Made the recipes tab where you can create and save your own recipes. Firstly made the links in the navbar and hero lead to the actual recipes tab. After that I planned out the sections of the recipes tab. Then I made a form where you can type in the recipe title, what ingredients you need for the recipe and the actual description for making the recipe. You can list the ingredients and amounts then add a comma as a separator. With js I made it so when you click the add recipe button all the ingredients will be listed in a neat list without the commas. All the recipes are put in a grid as cards so you can view them easily.

**Learning outcome:** Revision of what was taught in the videos about making the home tab for the website. Also learned about adding HTML elements with js according to user input.

**Date:** 25.8.2025

**Activity:** Made the recipes tab responsive on smaller screen sizes

Made the recipes tab more responsive on smaller screen sizes with media queries. I used information I learned from the video about responsive website design and applied it to the recipes tab. The saved recipes section needed the most adjustments with media queries especially in the mobile view (max screen width 670px).

**Learning outcome:** Revision of what was taught in the videos about making the site responsive with smaller screen sizes. Also learned how you have to be especially careful with responsive design when an user can add elements to the page.

**Date:** 1.9.2025

**Activity:** Deployment of the website project

Deployed my website with GitHub pages. Followed the instructions in the video about deploying your own website with GitHub pages.

**Learning outcome:** How to deploy your own website with GitHub pages.