

CP3402 Weekly Practical Student Learning Journal Record

Student's name : Marcus Thum

ID : 14734258

19 / 09 / 2025

9.00am – 12.00PM

(Re-learning and doing the practical)

21/ 09/ 2025

10.00am – 3.00PM

(Continue the practical and journaling)

Week 1: Subject Intro & Web Design Basics

Learning Activities & Resources:

Using Bootstrap to create a real estate website similar to PropertyGuru was a refreshing experience, especially since I had already worked with HTML and CSS in past semesters and personal projects. Having installed VS Code, I was eager to dive in. Bootstrap, with its mobile-first, grid-based framework, made it much easier to structure the website and ensure it was responsive across devices.

The grid system, with its 12-column layout, helped organize content efficiently, while Bootstrap's pre-built components (like navbars, buttons, and carousels) saved me time compared to manually coding these from scratch. I could focus on customizing the design for the real estate site, ensuring a clean, user-friendly interface with easy navigation.

Though I was comfortable with HTML and CSS, Bootstrap's use of utility classes and media queries pushed me to think more strategically about layout and responsiveness. There were challenges, particularly in customizing Bootstrap's default styles, but it was a good learning experience in CSS specificity and organizing styles effectively.

Overall, this project helped me refresh my web development skills, and the speed at which I was able to create a polished, responsive site was both rewarding and motivating.

Practical:

Creating a real estate website for my startup was an exciting challenge. It allowed me to apply my web development skills in a real-world context, blending creativity with functionality. I focused on making the site user-friendly and responsive, ensuring smooth navigation for potential clients.

Resources / Links:

- Weekly Journal: <https://github.com/MarcusThum/CP3402-Marcus-Thum-Guru.git>
- Website: <https://guruproperty.xyz/> (3 Pages)
- Bootstrap Made Templates: <https://bootstrapmade.com/>

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	<p><u>Estimated Hours:</u> Spent 8 hours doing the practical and journaling.</p> <p><u>Content Insights:</u> Revision for web designing would significantly enhance my understanding of Content Management Systems (CMS), as web design is the foundational knowledge for CMS. Knowing how to identify the target audience and designing a website that engages them is essential for effective web development.</p> <p><u>Career/Employability/Learning Insights</u> Web designing and development involve creating and managing websites, from their visual layout to their functionality. This skill set is highly valuable and would be beneficial for my future career, especially since I have a keen interest in web design as a hobby. Learning more about how websites are built, hosted, and maintained will give me a deeper understanding of the technical aspects behind the scenes.</p>
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26 / 09 / 2025

9.00am – 12.00PM

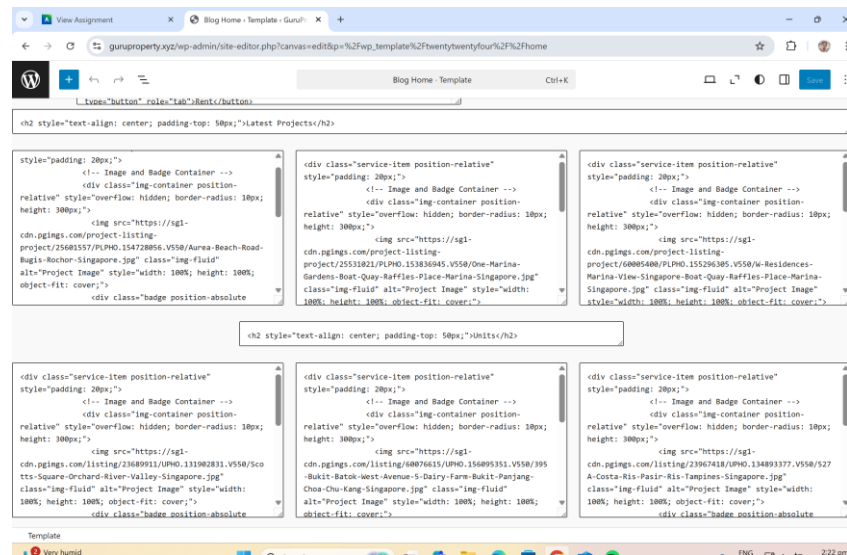
(Re-learning and doing the practical)

27/ 09/ 2025

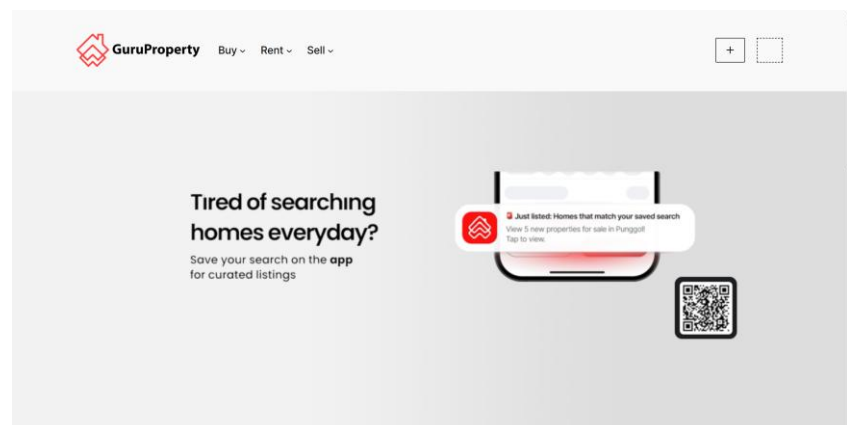
10.00am – 3.00PM

(Continue the practical and journaling)

Week 2: CMS



Using Wordpress Columns to organise content



Re-did hero image and header menu

Using Wordpress Header to Organize Links.

Using Wordpress Image to scale properly on all devices

Learning Activities & Resources – Using CMS Wordpress:

Working with WordPress columns, image heroes, headers, and footers helped me understand how design elements come together in a CMS environment. Compared to static HTML, WordPress made layout adjustments more flexible, especially with columns that adapt to different devices. The image hero section taught me how visuals can immediately engage users, while headers and footers reinforced consistency across pages. Converting from a static HTML site to a WordPress theme highlighted the value of reusable templates and dynamic content management. This experience showed me how CMS platforms streamline development while still allowing creative control over design and user experience.

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	<p><u>Practical:</u> Designing my website using WordPress has been a rewarding hands-on experience. It gave me the chance to apply my skills in a practical setting while exploring how a CMS can simplify web development. I worked on creating an engaging front page and well-structured subpages, focusing on both layout and usability. WordPress made it easier to experiment with design elements while keeping the site responsive and visually appealing. This process helped me understand the importance of balancing aesthetics with functionality, ensuring visitors can navigate smoothly. Overall, it was a valuable step in developing both technical skills and design thinking.</p> <p><u>Resources / Links:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly Journal: https://github.com/MarcusThum/CP3402-Marcus-Thum-Guru.git• Website: https://guruproperty.xyz/• Hosting Platform: https://www.spaceship.com/ (*NEW) <p><u>Estimated Hours:</u> Spent 6 hours doing the practical and journaling.</p> <p><u>Content Insights:</u> Using WordPress for content creation and design has deepened my understanding of Content Management Systems (CMS). It showed me how web design principles directly support CMS functionality, from structuring layouts to managing dynamic content. By working with WordPress, I learned the importance of tailoring content to the target audience and presenting it in a way that encourages engagement. Features like customizable themes, widgets, and plugins provided different perspectives on how a single design can generate multiple views and experiences.</p> <p><u>Career/Employability/Learning Insights</u> Working with WordPress has provided me with valuable career and learning insights. The hands-on experience of building and customizing websites improved both my technical and creative skills, making me more adaptable in today's digital job market.</p>
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