Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Business and Management

Sofware Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY, <Front-end> MODULE

**LEARNING DIARY**

22.6.2020  
  
I read all the provided information and understood the main focus of the course for myself, which is to find out if my background and present skills would be an asset for becoming a software developer, and to create a responsive portfolio website to represent my skills and passion. I chose front-end module because I have 25 years of experience in graphic pre-press and static graphic & package design, and I think front-end developing is the most natural choice with my background.

I also started to set up my environment. First I needed to understand in more detail what is GIT and how it works. I watched provided tutorial *intro to GIT*, set up a git repository and did my first local commit.

23.6.2020

I needed to make a decision which code editor to use. I have used Atom before a little, so it was initially my choice, but after googling the differences I decided to compare VS code and Atom in action to find the code editor best suited for me. I ended up choosing VS code for this course.

I also wanted to get more familiar with GIT, so I watched the *intro to GIT* again and learned how to commit changes and how to create and use .gitignore and git branches. By following the tutorial, I learned how to create a remote repository and push my files on remote repository.

25.– 28.6.2020

I watched all the 7 videos on Front-end Module tasklist to understand better the whole project from start to end. I learned how to set up all necessary software & additional plug-ins and extensions. I also learned what Sass is and how to set up and use Node-sass to compile Sass into CSS. I was already familiar with responsive design, but I learned the basics of how it is used on this project.

29.6.2020

I set up my Sass/SCC workflow for this project using Node-sass, created a HTML-markup for my home page, and my core styling with Sass following the videos Part 1 & 2. I learned how to use Sass variables, and how and why to use nesting in Sass for defining the parameters for my headings. I learned how to use Sass color functions to change the darkness and opacity of any elements background, and how to add an overlay to a background image using a pseudo-element. I learned how to create and include Sass mixins to create transition styles to reuse on different items in my project. I also learned about good practices on dividing my Sass into separate partials and importing them in my main.scss to keep my workflow cleaner and easier to use.

30.6.2020

Following the videos part 3 & 4, I learned how to create a menu-button that turns from lines into X using CSS, and how to use Javascript QuerySelector and EventListener methods to show and hide my menu when clicking the menu-button. I also learned about CSS selectors. I created the menu overlay, added branding area & navigation links, and created Media Query Mixins to start making my project responsive on different sized screens. I learned more about CSS transformations and transitions to make items slide in and out smoothly. I learned how to include the CSS Media Query Mixins to change the parameters of the items on my front page and menu overlay to make them responsive. Additionally, I didn’t want my menu overlay branding image to be affected by the opacity, so I removed the opacity from the .menu class and added it directly to the .menu-branding and .menu-nav classes following instructions on the comment section of the video part 4.

6.7.2020

Following the video part 5, I learned how to create and use a set text color function with CSS to change the color of the text and other items always visible based on the darkness/lightness of the background. I learned how to create a sticky footer with calc function, and how to use CSS grid template areas and columns to align the items on my “About” page in variable width columns. I learned more about changing the grid parameters to make my “About” page responsive.

8.7.2020

Following the video part 6, I added items on my “Work” page using CSS grid template columns. I learned more about fractionals and how to use them on responsive CSS grids. I also learned how to create and combine different button styles. Working on my “Contact” page, I learned how to use CSS flex-boxes, and how to create a hover effect with different color and padding values to items to make them more dynamic.

14.7.2020

Following the video part 7, I learned how to deploy my website using GitHub Pages and deploy script.