**A Course for Confidence**

What’s happening class. I’m currently living in Shanghai China, from Orlando Florida, on holiday during what is called “Spring Festival”. This is kind of like the Christmas break for countries in the region which last between one - two weeks. So the beginning of February for me is a two-week vacation from my job, a lot of people like to travel during this time but I need to work on my FS assignments so I will only take a few days to leave the city. I work in the education industry here, it’s an interesting life, and look towards using the development and design skills learned from this course to produce software for this industry. Prior teaching and training English to people here I worked as a marine (maritime) engineer traveling/living/working all over the world visiting over 25 different countries in my life time. If anyone is interested in coming to China to work as an English teacher feel free to let me know and I can give you some advice.

The biggest challenge for me is going to be dealing with the unreliable internet with in this city/country. China blocks a lot of foreign websites and even accessing sites that are hosted abroad that aren’t blocked can be painfully slow sometimes, this is dealt with by using a VPN but even that is not reliable. For example, I tried to attend the GoToTraining this morning (my time) and the internet wasn’t working. So when things like this happen I need to focus my time to some other task.

Goal/Aspirations: to complete this course, and be proficient in application design and development to a level that I can work towards producing apps that are the highest quality.

**Replies**

terence pierce

Tomas,

That's awesome that you get to travel. How's the weather in Shanghai, China? I currently live in Orlando, Florida. Growing with both of my parents being in the Army I had my share time of traveling. I was born in Seoul, Korea. I lived several years in Germany before moving to the states. That really sucks that the internet is unreliable in China. What type of mobile apps are you interested in developing?

5 days ago

Tomas Umholtz

Top of Form

Terence Ya Seoul is awesome, I love going there. As for the weather in Shanghai it rains a lot more than I expected (this is my first year here, I previously lived in Beijing and Guangzhou). Never been to Germany but hit a bunch of countries in the Mediterranean some years back. The apps I am interested in are ways to gamify engineering concepts such as electronic circuits/logic, thermodynamics, refrigeration concepts (like make it fun and learn the concepts at the same time) think "sim power station" and/or class management solutions for the ESL schools where I am. Just gotta stay motivated, you know. - Tommy

Bottom of Form

[Edit](https://course.fso.fullsail.edu/class_sections/69077/discussions/1109597) 4 days ago LATE

Robin Groff Alarcon

INSTRUCTOR

Tomas, thank you for sharing. What is the time difference, about 13 or 14 hours ahead? My nephew is in Japan. Hopefully, the Internet will cooperate and the the sites you need this month won't be blocked. Terrence, thank you for responding.  One of my students last month lived in Germany, that's one country I have always wanted to visit.

4 days ago LATE

**Anchor Points**

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 Lived worked and or traveled to over 25 countries. Served in the US Navy as an engineer and also a photojournalist. Worked as a Merchant Mariner Refrigeration Engineer/Specialist.

 Currently living and working in Shanghai China as a consultant/language teacher and attending FS University’s Mobile Development program.

 Create a product that is highly organized concise and well thought out with a specific function that follows its function efficiently. I’m not sure what that ‘product’ is yet.

Bottom of Form

[Edit](https://course.fso.fullsail.edu/class_sections/69077/discussions/1109605) 6 days ago

**Replies**

[+5 replies](https://course.fso.fullsail.edu/class_sections/69077/discussions/1109605)

Zena Zahran

Quick and quite to the post!  Please do not forget to include headings.  That was something that Robin expressed in our GoTo training on Monday night.  As for your bullet point #3, are you looking to build one app, a series or are you looking to create your company.  Apps are becoming a huge part of the military.  Please check out this article:

[**Military apps putting iPhone in the battlefield**](http://www.networkworld.com/article/2202140/smartphones/military-apps-putting-iphone-in-the-battlefield.html)

RELATED

* [iPads, Android tablets and smartphones join the military](http://www.networkworld.com/article/2201028/smartphones/ipads--android-tablets-and-smartphones-join-the-military.html)
* [Emerging iPhone, iPad 2 App Enables Remote Surveillance](http://www.networkworld.com/article/2201303/smartphones/emerging-iphone--ipad-2-app-enables-remote-surveillance.html)
* [Tablet deathmatch: Apple iPad 2 vs. Motorola Xoom](http://www.networkworld.com/article/2200970/computers/tablet-deathmatch--apple-ipad-2-vs--motorola-xoom.html)
* on IDG **Answers**

[How can I convert my company's Flash-based website to work on the iPad?](http://www.idganswers.com/question/868/how-can-i-convert-my-company-s-flash-based-website-to-work-on-the-ipad#src=nww)

Presently, the NSA is looking for app developers to create these types of apps.  You don't always have to reinvent the wheel.  You may want to visit many of the sites that have  that host military's direction for the future.  It may surprise you!  iPhone apps are being developed for military mapping, surveillance.

[Rebels Use iPad App to Aim Mortars](http://www.military.com/video/operations-and-strategy/battles/rebels-use-ipad-app-to-aim-mortars/2680199759001)

[Secure Mobile Environment Portable Electronic Device (SME PED)](https://www.nsa.gov/ia/news/2009/sme-ped.shtml)

I do hope that some of this information is helpful!

5 days ago

*The author edited this post*

Robin Groff Alarcon

INSTRUCTOR

Tomas, Zena is correct, the headings are required and serve as insurance that all of the questions have been answered. Thank you for your service. Zena, great response!  Thank you for providing so much information to Tomas.

3 days ago LATE

Zena Zahran

My pleasure Robin! My youngest son is sixteen and in the Navy Sea Cadets.  I find myself always researching military sites.

3 days ago LATE

Tomas Umholtz

Top of Form

Zena, sorry I missed your post, thanks for helping.

Bottom of Form

[Edit](https://course.fso.fullsail.edu/class_sections/69077/discussions/1109605) 2 days ago LATE

Zena Zahran

It's alright Tomas!  I hope it was useful.

2 days ago LATE

**A Call to Success**

World wide it’s pretty common knowledge that America has some of the most successful and richest people of our times. Generally, people equate wealth with ‘success’ so when asked who is the most successful person in the world the most common answer is Bill Gates. This is even true in China but if you ask a Mainland Chinese citizen who the most successful person in their country is they will tell you Jack Ma or Ma Yun (马云).

MA was born in the eastern city of Hangzhou near Shanghai during the 1960’s and comes from a household of the time. He grew up during the time of Mao Zedong Cultural revolution, a time when many traditional ways were persecuted against. His father and mother both musical story tellers, that is they performed musical plays to earn money, which was technically banned by the Maoist government. This line of work along with his grandfather’s affiliation with China’s ousted National party did not earn him any favors from society. His childhood life was practically void of direct technological influence or privilege so how did he end up founding what would become one of China’s most valuable ecommerce holdings companies?

He’s derived his wealth and success from his ability to predict future market needs discovering ways to accommodate those markets and and also in having an uncanny ability to make people want to follow his direction. To me that is the basic formula for anyone to achieve success of this type: a vision, a market, and the ability to get people on board with that vision, no matter how hard you try you are one person and you *can* only do the work of one person. From Jack’s common background it’s shown that achieving this special success is not something from a designed childhood environment, it is a combination of unique life experiences.

Refrences:

MacLeod, C. (2014). Alibaba's Jack Ma: From 'crazy' to China's richest man. Retrieved February 04, 2016, from http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2014/09/17/alibaba-jack-ma-profile/15406641/

Gough, N., & Stevenson, A. (2014). The Unlikely Ascent of Jack Ma, Alibaba’s Founder. Retrieved February 04, 2016, from http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/08/technology/the-unlikely-ascent-of-jack-ma-alibabas-founder.html?\_r=0

**Replies**

Amanda Stacy

Thomas, it's nice to hear about success of others in other countries. I've never really thought about successful people outside of the US, unless they are game developers. I firmly believe, and he is a great example, that your family background does not define your future.

2 days ago

Robin Groff Alarcon

INSTRUCTOR

Tomas, good choice.  How does Ma's journey relate to yours?  Is it as Amanda stated that family background does not matter or is there some other reason?

3 hours ago LATE

Tomas Umholtz

Top of Form

I relate Ma's experience with having a background that doesn't really apply to the field I am going into and that with a unique perspective I hope to think of and do things that others haven't, similar to Ma.

Bottom of Form

[Edit](https://course.fso.fullsail.edu/class_sections/69077/discussions/1109615) a minute ago