Novel Multimedia Application Reflection

Innovative Multimedia

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The novel application that we chose to create was a fitness-based application, with the theme being a gym. From assessing the finished product, I believe it is has turned out successfully and would be viable as a professional website for a gym. This is due to the fact that the website created has a professional theme throughout with multiple engaging features that you would associate with a gym. All the features included are operating as expected and the presentation and layout is consistent throughout, hence why I believe it would work and be viable as a professional gym web application. The only issue we faced as a team, due to unforeseen circumstances, was a team member unfortunately withdrawing from the project and therefore the tasks that we allocated evenly had to be changed around and reallocated as it wasn’t possible for us to do all the tasks that we initially set ourselves with one team member down.

Never the less, this didn’t hinder our project too much and we were still able to work efficiently and complete the project successfully. Using the SCRUM framework aided this to an extent as we could clearly see which tasks needed to be done and when they needed to be completed by. Working on a task one by one and then going back to the full product, implementing it and then re-assessing whether to move onto the next task immediately or whether some changes needed to be made first was beneficial in the success of this project. This is because it allowed us to check for errors, section by section, rather than putting the finished sections together right at the end and then finding multiple errors, struggling to find where they lie. However, this wasn’t the case for the full team, the SCRUM framework benefited me to an extent, but other team members didn’t find it as effective. Therefore I believe the SCRUM framework has fantastic potential and could be used again to assist a team of programmers in building an application.

Throughout this project, a technical platform used was the foundation framework. This was extremely appropriate for our project as we were aiming to produce a website that looked as professional as possible and using this framework provided us with a collection of HTML, CSS and JavaScript which allowed us to create and build unique designs from using the design patterns within the framework. Alongside using this, Atom was editor we used to produce our own code and within this editor the languages that were used were; HTML, CSS, JavaScript and PHP. These languages were used as HTML allowed us to design out pages, CSS allowed us to style them, JavaScript allowed us to implement responsive features and PHP allowed us to store user data within a database, allowing for sign up and log in functionalities, and also design a header and footer that we were able to embed within every page to allow consistency. These technologies were definitely appropriate for our web application as it allowed us to create a consistent theme with multiple functionalities to support the aim of creating a professional fitness website, and therefore would use the same structure if we were to do the project again.

For the project, my individual contribution can be seen on multiple pages. The first task I did was product the google maps functionality which can be seen on the “find a gym” and “contact” pages. This was designed with on-click functions implemented to allow the user to click on each city across the UK. The second task I did implement the social media links. I embedded these within the footer.php file to allow them to appear across the whole website for consistency. The final functionality I created was the class timetable. This was created to allow users to see what classes were taking place on specific times and dates. From producing these functionalities it enabled me to develop my programming skills. For example, the timetable uses the div class function, a function I have previously struggled with. Therefore, from this project and assistance from team members, I now feel comfortable using this function. Finally, from seeing how my group members wrote their code for their functionalities, it allowed me to develop even further, such as understanding how to use PHP to store user data in a database.