

CP3402 Weekly Practical Student Learning Journal Record

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27 / 5 / 2024	<p><u>Week 1: Subject Intro & Web Design Basics</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>Set my business: Mental Health Support website Problem: Limited access to mental health resources and stigma around seeking help. Solution: The website contains some Mental Health information, and provide psychological counseling service online. Plan: index for introduce the mental health support business services for providing the mental health information contact for contact information</p> <p>1.Learning Activities & Resources</p> <p>This week I decided that my startup theme would be Mental Health Support. After that, I made a preliminary design for my web page, including three pages: home, services, and contact. Learn how to use CSS: https://www.runoob.com/html/html-css.html And this website also be my tutor: https://www.w3school.com.cn/cssref/pr_background-size.asp</p> <p>2.Estimated Hours</p> <p>In total, I probably spent seven hours on Practical this week.</p> <p>3.Development Journal</p> <p>Page 1: Home Objective: Our goal for the homepage is to create an inviting and informative space that welcomes visitors and provides a comprehensive overview of the mental health support services offered.</p> <p>Page 2: Services Objective: This page aims to provide detailed information about the various mental health services offered, enabling visitors to make informed decisions about their needs.</p> <p>Page 3: Contact Objective: To facilitate easy communication between visitors and the support team, offering multiple contact options and encouraging inquiries.</p>
2 / 6 / 2024	<p><u>Week 2 - Overview of CMSs</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p>

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	<p>While learning and using Joomla, I encountered several challenges. One issue was needing to connect to MySQL on my personal computer to download the complete Joomla component, which caused some operational problems. Additionally, while using the web editor to edit my web pages, I faced further difficulties. For instance, Joomla provides a template called CASSIOPEIA, but many elements, including pictures, are not editable. Despite trying numerous solutions, I was unable to make the necessary modifications.</p> <p>Estimated Hours this week I use at least 10h in my work, including to search how to solve my problem and learn how to use Joomla.</p> <p>Content Insights Joomla is a powerful component that I've used this week. As an open-source platform, Joomla! allows anyone to view, modify, and distribute its source code, fostering a large developer community that continually enhances the platform. Joomla! offers a rich set of extensions and templates, making it highly adaptable to various website needs. Numerous third-party developers contribute plugins, modules, and themes to expand its functionality. Additionally, Joomla! boasts excellent scalability, allowing it to be extended with plugins, modules, and components to meet the specific requirements of different types of websites.</p>
8 / 6 / 2024	<p><u>Week 3 - WordPress: installation, settings, content, navigation, using themes and plugins</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>Today, I set out to learn how to use WordPress to create a website. The process began with installing WordPress on my local server using XAMPP. The installation was straightforward, involving just a few steps to get the basic setup ready. I then configured the database and connected it to WordPress.</p> <p>Next, I explored various themes in the WordPress repository and chose one that was clean, responsive, and customizable. After installing and activating the theme, I customized it to fit the branding and aesthetic I wanted for my website. This involved adjusting the header, footer, colors, fonts, and layout settings.</p> <p>To enhance the website's functionality, I installed several essential plugins, including Yoast SEO for search engine optimization, Wordfence for security, and W3 Total Cache for performance improvement. Configuring these plugins was an educational experience as I learned about their capabilities and how to integrate them effectively.</p> <p>Creating content was the next step. I used the Gutenberg editor to add and format content for key pages like Home, About,</p>

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	<p>Services, and Contact. I also published several blog posts to understand the post creation process and how categories and tags help organize content.</p> <p>Customizing the navigation and adding widgets were important steps to ensure a user-friendly experience. I structured the website's menu for easy navigation and used widgets to add features like recent posts, search bars, and social media links.</p> <p>Before launching the website, I tested its functionality across different browsers and devices to ensure it was fully responsive and user-friendly. Fixing any issues that arose during testing was crucial for a smooth user experience.</p> <p>Overall, creating a website using WordPress has been a valuable learning experience. The platform's intuitive interface and extensive customization options made the process accessible. I learned the importance of planning, content strategy, and ongoing maintenance. This journey has equipped me with practical web development skills and a deeper appreciation for web design and content management.</p>
16 / 6 / 2024	<p><u>Week 4 - Development and deployment workflows</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>In the process of installing, I met some problems. For example, after I installed, I cannot log in, the website showed me that I cannot connect to database or invalid database name. I tried to solve this problem but failed. Then I copied the wrong tips and pasted them to YouTube and followed the video. In the end I log in successfully and create my WordPress.</p>
23 / 6 / 2024	<p><u>Week 5 - WordPress: Developing Child Themes</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>Developing child themes in WordPress has been an enlightening experience. It offers a powerful way to customize and extend themes without altering the original theme files, ensuring future updates are hassle-free. The process of creating and enqueueing styles, modifying templates, and adding custom functions has deepened my understanding of WordPress' core structure. I've learned the importance of adhering to best practices, such as using hooks and filters to keep the theme flexible and maintainable. This journey has equipped me with valuable skills for building more robust and personalized WordPress websites.</p>

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29 / 6 / 2024	<u>Week 6 - Project/client introduction, group project management</u> <u>Description</u> 1.Learning Activities & Resources The main activity this week was creating groups in different collaboration tools. The git hub group was created by me, every member in our group did different things, and my main task is work out Github. 2.Estimated Hours Approximately 1.5 hours, Because we have a clear division of labor and each performs his or her own duties, we have extremely high work efficiency. 3.Content Insights The main purpose of this week's exercise is to prepare for subsequent group tasks. Registering all the software to be used in advance will help improve subsequent work efficiency. 4.Career/Employability/Learning Insights This week's study taught me how to create a group in Github and invite group members to join. In addition, our group also divided the work according to the different points that each person is good at. Generally speaking, the preparation work this time was a Efficient collaboration. I believe these valuable experiences
21 / 7 / 2024	<u>Week 7 - PHP Programming</u> <u>Description</u> Programming in PHP has been both challenging and rewarding. The language's flexibility allows for dynamic web development, making it a favorite for building robust backend systems. Throughout my journey, I've grasped the importance of understanding PHP's syntax, functions, and error handling mechanisms. Debugging and optimizing code for performance have become second nature, and I've gained confidence in integrating PHP with databases like MySQL. Overall, PHP has proven to be an essential skill, enhancing my ability to develop dynamic and interactive websites efficiently.
28 / 7 / 2024	<u>Week 8 - WordPress: Developing Custom Themes</u> <u>Description</u>

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	<p>1.Learning Activities & Resources The main activity this week is to Use some form of the scientific method with a theory and test. In the process of learning, I saw some videoes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dzzMTPR6Ls</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uYSLxJbPEY</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdTWGvP1k2Q</p> <p>Theory: I hypothesize that incorporating interactive coding exercises into my learning routine will enhance my understanding of content management systems (CMS) and PHP, compared to traditional passive learning methods.</p> <p>Test: Select a specific topic in CMS or PHP for the experiment. For the first phase, use traditional learning methods (reading documentation, watching tutorials). For the second phase, engage in interactive coding exercises related to the chosen topic. Measure the time spent, level of engagement, and understanding for each phase. Compare the results to determine the effectiveness of each method.</p> <p>2.Estimated Hours Approximately 5 hours, Because in addition to completing Assignment 2, the LJ to be submitted this week only requires research, comparison and summary of learning methods.</p> <p>3.Content Insights After conducting the experiment, I observed a notable difference in my understanding and retention of the topic when incorporating interactive coding exercises. The hands-on practice allowed for a more profound comprehension of the concepts, and the active engagement kept me motivated throughout the learning process. This experiment highlights the significance of interactive and practical learning approaches, especially in technical subjects like CMS and PHP. I will continue to integrate coding exercises into my learning routine for a more effective and enjoyable learning experience.</p> <p>4.Career/Employability/Learning Insights Engaging in the learning experiment provided valuable insights into the intersection of career development, employability, and effective learning strategies. The experiment reinforced the importance of hands-on skills in the field of content management systems (CMS) and PHP, contributing significantly to practical expertise. This hands-on approach enhances employability, showcasing the ability to apply knowledge in real-world scenarios—a sought-after skill in the tech industry. The experiment highlighted the effectiveness of a balanced learning approach, combining theoretical knowledge with interactive activities, essential for continuous professional development. Additionally, it emphasized the significance of adaptability, technological agility, and motivation for sustained career growth. The integration of interactive and practical learning methods will remain a</p>
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	cornerstone of my approach, ensuring competitiveness in the dynamic landscape of technology and content management.
4 / 8 / 2024	<p><u>Week 9 - CSS pre-processing with Sass</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>CSS pre-processing with Sass has revolutionized my approach to styling websites. By using variables, nesting, and mixins, I've been able to write more efficient and maintainable code. The ability to break down styles into reusable components has greatly improved both my workflow and the scalability of projects. Sass also helps in organizing CSS, making it easier to manage large codebases by splitting styles into partials. Overall, adopting Sass has enhanced my productivity, enabling me to build more complex designs with less effort.</p>
9 / 8 / 2024	<p><u>Week 10 - Securing WordPress</u></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>Learning Activities & Resources This week, our main activity was setting up groups across various collaboration tools. I took the lead in creating the GitHub group, while other group members handled different aspects. My primary responsibility was managing and configuring GitHub.</p> <p>Estimated Hours I spent approximately 1.5 hours on this task. Thanks to our clear division of labor and each member focusing on their strengths, our workflow was highly efficient.</p> <p>Content Insights The objective of this week's activity was to prepare for future group tasks. Setting up and registering the necessary software in advance significantly boosts our efficiency for subsequent work.</p> <p>Career/Employability/Learning Insights This week, I learned how to create a group on GitHub and invite members to join. Our group also effectively divided tasks based on individual strengths, leading to an efficient collaboration. These experiences will be valuable in future team-based projects.</p>

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