**🎓 Updated 20-Week Course Schedule (2 Days/Week, 2 Hours/Day)**

This is now aligned with the full V1 feature list and “definition of done.”

**PHASE 1 – FOUNDATION (Weeks 1–4)**

*Goal: Establish tooling, boilerplate, and workflows.*

**Week 1 – Setup & Planning**

* Day 1: Repo setup, GitHub basics, README scaffold, local dev env
* Day 2: Pick deployment stack (Render/Railway), CI/CD hello world (GH Actions)

**Week 2 – Frontend Skeleton**

* Day 3: Create-react-app or Vite bootstrapping, page routing
* Day 4: Build static pages (Home, Journal List, Entry View, New Entry Form)

**Week 3 – Backend API Skeleton**

* Day 5: Express/Fastify API scaffold, test endpoint
* Day 6: Hook up frontend to fetch sample API data

**Week 4 – DevOps & Infra as Code Intro**

* Day 7: Create IaC plan (Terraform: DB, bucket, service), begin implementation
* Day 8: Apply Terraform to create S3 bucket or equivalent, connect storage

**PHASE 2 – CORE FEATURES (Weeks 5–12)**

*Goal: Build out CRUD, storage, and media handling.*

**Week 5 – DB Setup**

* Day 9: Choose schema (Postgres vs Mongo), define journal model
* Day 10: Migrate DB and test inserts from local API

**Week 6 – Create Entry API**

* Day 11: POST /entries — Accept text, image, metadata
* Day 12: Frontend journal form wired to backend POST

**Week 7 – View Entries (List & Detail)**

* Day 13: GET /entries — List view
* Day 14: GET /entries/:id — Detail view

**Week 8 – Edit/Delete Entries**

* Day 15: PATCH & DELETE endpoints
* Day 16: Frontend edit/delete wiring

**Week 9 – Media Uploads**

* Day 17: Setup signed S3 upload URLs
* Day 18: Allow image uploads in frontend, store S3 link in DB

**Week 10 – Location Tagging**

* Day 19: Frontend location picker / browser geolocation
* Day 20: Store geolocation + address in DB

**Week 11 – Mood Tagging + Misc UX**

* Day 21: Mood tags (emoji or palette), optional field
* Day 22: UX polish for create/edit forms

**Week 12 – Test Coverage**

* Day 23: Add unit tests to backend routes
* Day 24: Frontend form validation & snapshot tests

**PHASE 3 – POLISH, DEMO, DEPLOY (Weeks 13–20)**

*Goal: Launch app, prepare portfolio/storytelling.*

**Week 13 – CI/CD Polish**

* Day 25: Build-on-commit config (GitHub Actions)
* Day 26: Setup production vs staging environments

**Week 14 – Production Deployment**

* Day 27: Final deploy of frontend + backend
* Day 28: Smoke test full app in prod

**Week 15 – UX Polish**

* Day 29: 404 page, loading states, empty states
* Day 30: Accessibility and performance pass

**Week 16 – README & Docs**

* Day 31: Document API, setup, .env.example, architecture notes
* Day 32: Record Loom walkthrough or screenshots

**Week 17 – Resume & Story Crafting**

* Day 33: Draft 2–3 resume bullets
* Day 34: Create short LinkedIn post + project summary

**Week 18 – Mock Interviews & Pitching**

* Day 35: Practice explaining architecture in 1:00
* Day 36: Practice whiteboard: “How did you build this?”

**Week 19 – Targeted Job Applications**

* Day 37: Apply to 5 companies with project link
* Day 38: Customize resume to highlight project tech stack

**Week 20 – Final Audit & Sprint Retrospective**

* Day 39: Identify missing features or bugs, wrap up
* Day 40: Reflect, log lessons learned, plan V2 roadmap