Skills lab – Digital skills

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**Class: UXD 1.B**

**Github URL: https://github.com/RickVermeulenn/RickVermeulenFinalSkillsLab.git**

**Study Log:**

Previous knowledge & sprint 1

Previous to this course I had some knowledge on HTML, even though this shot me in the foot during the start of the year. I wanted to construct the general layout of my pages before I started implementing features such as images and other visual content. However, as I met with Joël, he kindly advised me to review HTML 5 (Lynda + w3schools 2.7 to 2.9), from I directly noticed my past knowledge was not applicable to this project. My sprint 1 was thus dedicated to experimenting with my own knowledge and interpreting upon what I can use.

Reflection sprint 1

I used the experimenting phase during sprint 1 to set up some goals to what I wanted to learn. My intensions were to get a better insight into what HTML 5 has to offer, how this differs, what is important about this, learn about colour schemes by experimenting, apply knowledge from other subject to my final project and become a more efficient worker. I will interpret upon these notions in the description of the following five sprints.

Sprint 2

I dedicated sprint two to designing and prototyping. From this I learned about colour schemes, padding and font sized (w3schools 2.2 to 2.6). Next to this I learned from mistakes, and interpreted on things I would have to improve. One of these mistakes is that I needed to name the content of my layers in Photoshop files, as if I would return to my work later I would be able to understand what I have written before. I left my prototyping folder in the final folder to show my progress, in comparison to my updated final version (please only grade the updated version).

Sprint 3

As I explored new schemes, colours, and padding styles I started designing my final product. I wanted to design something that separates the content as you scroll down, and gives the user a menu/contact information wherever he or she is on the page. I did so by using a fading background (w3schools 2.10), and an image on the top of the page so it seems like the page is continuous, yet is cut off. Next to that I wanted to implement hover and active states to increase the interactivity. The menu and contact information has a fixed status so that it stays on the top and bottom of the page.

Sprint 4

Sprint 4 was dedicated to writing the information for the website, finding videos and other content. This activity enabled me to explore new ways of obtaining icons (1.2 thenounproject), (1.3 fa2png.io). Next to that I worked on how you can best convey a message so that some text stands out more than the others. I have attempted to achieve this by centre aligning a title, left aligning the text, and letting headers have bigger font sizes. Next to that I started working with Photoshop to create the visual elements, and named their layers with an appropriate name.

Sprint 5

Half way sprint 4, sprints 5 and the first half of week 6 were dedicated to constructing the HTML and CSS codes for the website. By this activity I enabled myself to implement the things I have studied such as html 5 through Lynda.com & w3schools.com (2.1 to 2.10) and worked to obtain a visualisation of the initial physical designs. One aspect that I found very useful was tooltips (w3schools 2.11), which is a technique I used to enhance on interactivity and visibility of the website.

Sprint 6

The last sprint was dedicated to finishing the codes and fixing any mistakes, possibly brushing up some semantics. There were no real new techniques applied, as this has all been done in the last 5 sprints. Lastly, I tried to implement some php (w3schools 2.12) codes which enabled users to add content to the website. As I can’t view if it works without a host I asked Joël if he could take a look if it was in the right place and written correctly. I chose to make a form/comment box rather than a contact form (ex.), as it engages the user more in the website since they are able to add content to it.

Conclusion

To summarise my progress, throughout the past 12 weeks I have definitely learned a lot about HTML, designing and interactivity in websites. This can be specified even more by the looking in the perspectives of photoshop, HTML and css as these were the main areas I was exposed to. When I reflect back on the work that I have done, I can confidently say that HTML 5 is definitely more convenient then my initial way of working. I learned to leave comments and name my layers in photoshop files I have a better understanding of the work I have done previously. I have achieved to learn this basic knowledge regarding the learning objectives that were set in week 1 through the help of Lynda.com, w3schools.com, youtube and other classes I have taken part in. My biggest struggles were HTML 5, PHP and Photoshop as these were totally new topics to me. However as an end result I would definitely consider using these techniques later on, and study these topics further as they are useful skills.

Links to image sources:

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| <https://www.google.nl/search?as_st=y&hl=nl&tbs=sur%3Afmc&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=fit+background&oq=fit+background&gs_l=img.3...30312.34417.0.34712.0.0.0.0.0.0.0.0..0.0....0...1c.1.64.img..0.0.0.DBuZtNZNfLY#imgrc=0IRKwRtaGgaaGM%3A> | Photo used for background in the button menu |
| Google:  <https://www.google.nl/search?q=arm+icon&safe=active&espv=2&biw=1536&bih=710&tbm=isch&imgil=5PNwf2wHc5WKHM%253A%253B5cls6gAk2pZSkM%253Bhttps%25253A%25252F%25252Fthenounproject.com%25252Fterm%25252Farm%25252F&source=iu&pf=m&fir=5PNwf2wHc5WKHM%253A%252C5cls6gAk2pZSkM%252C_&usg=__Bv9kySVYSTk_JGLYKnurY-vCsDg%3D&ved=0ahUKEwiG1ryM-PDQAhWhI8AKHe3TDr0QyjcIPA&ei=XMpPWIa4M6HHgAbtp7voCw#imgrc=5PNwf2wHc5WKHM%3A>  Page:  <https://thenounproject.com/search/?q=strenth&i=29606> | Arm icon (created free account) |
| create play button image |  |
| <http://fa2png.io/> | Map marker (free generator) |

Tutorials:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1 | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVDTNOj604A | Tutorial for curved text in Photoshop |
| 2.2 | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOQJIVcxeQY | Centre aligning div |
| 2.3 | https://www.w3schools.com/ | For general coding help |
| 2.4 | http://www.w3schools.com/howto/howto\_css\_fixed\_menu.asp | Fixed menu |
| 2.5 | http://www.w3schools.com/css/css\_navbar.asp | Css navigation bar |
| 2.6 | http://www.w3schools.com/css/ | Css totorial |
| 2.7 | http://www.w3schools.com/html/html5\_intro.asp | Html 5 introduction |
| 2.8 | http://www.w3schools.com/html/html5\_new\_elements.asp | HTML 5 structure |
| 2.9 | https://www.lynda.com/HTML-tutorials/Defining-HTML5-documents/182177/370812-4.html?srchtrk=index%3a0%0alinktypeid%3a2%0aq%3ahtml+5%0apage%3a1%0as%3arelevance%0asa%3atrue%0aproducttypeid%3a2 | Lynda, html 5 tutorial (multiple) |
| 2.10 | http://www.w3schools.com/css/css3\_gradients.asp | Fading background |
| 2.11 | http://www.w3schools.com/css/css\_tooltip.asp | Tooltip’s for the popup box in the image menu |
| 2.12 | <http://www.w3schools.com/php/func_filesystem_fopen.asp>  <http://www.w3schools.com/tags/att_meta_http_equiv.asp>  <http://www.w3schools.com/tags/att_form_action.asp>  <http://www.w3schools.com/tags/tag_textarea.asp>  <http://www.w3schools.com/php/php_forms.asp>  <http://www.w3schools.com/tags/att_input_type.asp>  <http://www.w3schools.com/php/func_filesystem_fopen.asp>  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KwnPS5OhGI&feature=youtu.be> | Sources for PHP |