

Overview:

The goal for this course was to gain knowledge in web development. Nowadays it is very common for companies to ask for candidates with skills in both UX design and basic code language (HTML, CSS, JS). Having applied knowledge in web front-end development, I understand systems and their limitations and can help to smooth the process between conceptualization and implementation. Additionally, this course will help me to be more realistic when crafting my visions and design ideas.

Context and Challenge:

The project brief for this task was to develop and design a personal design portfolio from scratch over a period of 2 and a half months. I have learned how to apply HTML5 to my website in order to make it responsive to different screen sizes. My key to this challenge is a responsive portfolio website guiding from best practices in terms of layout and style.

Process and Insights

Before crafting the sitemap I applied research to other top best UX designer portfolios. I already had an idea for the layout based on a website I have made during the UX design course by using a template from Wix.com.

During this course, I had frequently skyped calls with my mentor Carlo van der Pluijm who was leading and directing me with best practices for my design and coding decisions. My research, as well as my mentors guidances, implied that a portfolio site should consist from My Work page, About page, and a Contact page. At this stage, I have included an additional page "Homepage" where all the projects briefly displayed, however, I simplified it in order to achieve easier navigation with fewer clicks.

Creating a website from scratch allows for a wider range of freedom in terms of design choices, so this portfolio site also features a footer with a contact section standing for every page. For my My-work page I have included 4 project sections, using a two-column layout with an image from the left and a brief description on the right.

Once the layout was decided, I started pulling the content for each project. The color palette I chose is the purple with the #6200EE code the same with my brand name. The purple associated with royalty, power, and ambition, characteristics of my personality. I have added with CSS3 transitions to the buttons to alter the appearance and behavior, when it has hovered over, focused on, active, in order to achieve a fun, interaction and call to action buttons. I also added manual and automatic slideshow effects by using CSS styling and script with js in order to display multiple images.

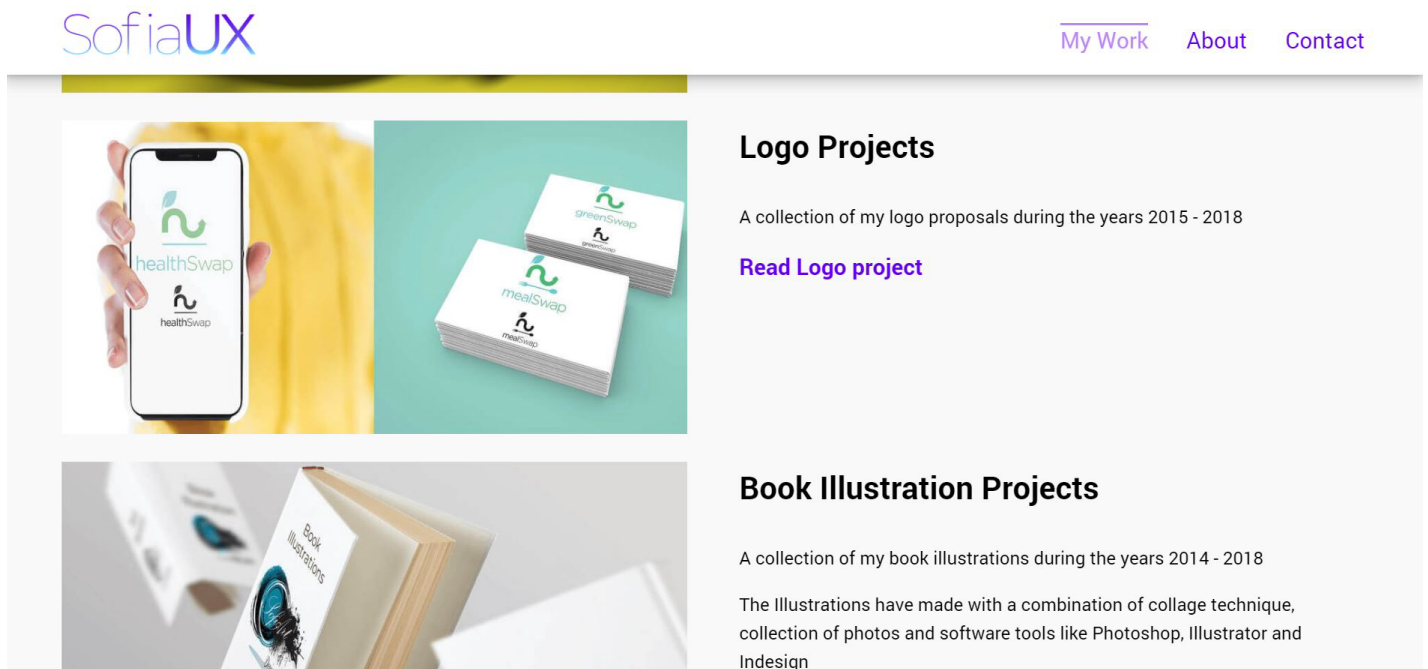
Usability Testing is following, familiar for me from the UX design course, with 5 real-time participant sessions in order to evaluate the accessibility of this website. Based on the feedback I gained valuable insights which I have used in order to make the appropriate improvements.

While developing my portfolio, I understood that my website has to be constantly checked, with the inspector tool, in a smaller device screen iPhone5 and to be successfully displayed all the elements with consistency on the desktop, mobile, and tablet. These whole processes were guided by my mentor who always gave me a very clear instruction by explaining and giving me to understand the logic of programming clearer. Lastly, I validate my code with the W3school validator in order to prevent errors and beautify my code.

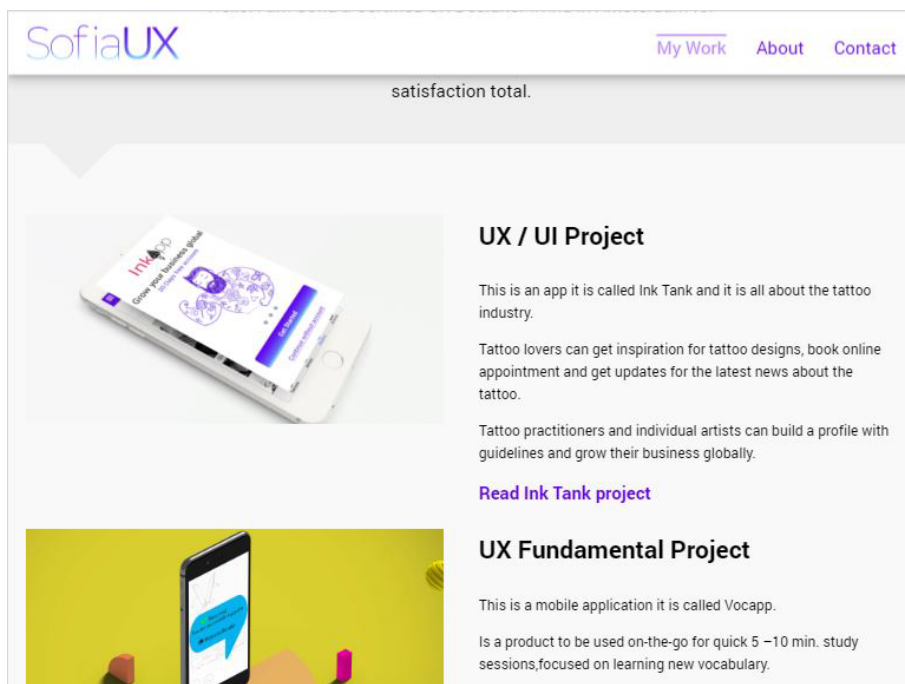
Solution:

Below is My Work page that works as the homepage of my website with a two column layout where all the portfolio projects are displaying. On top right of the website stands a clickable logo (personal logo) that navigates the user at the home page "My Work".

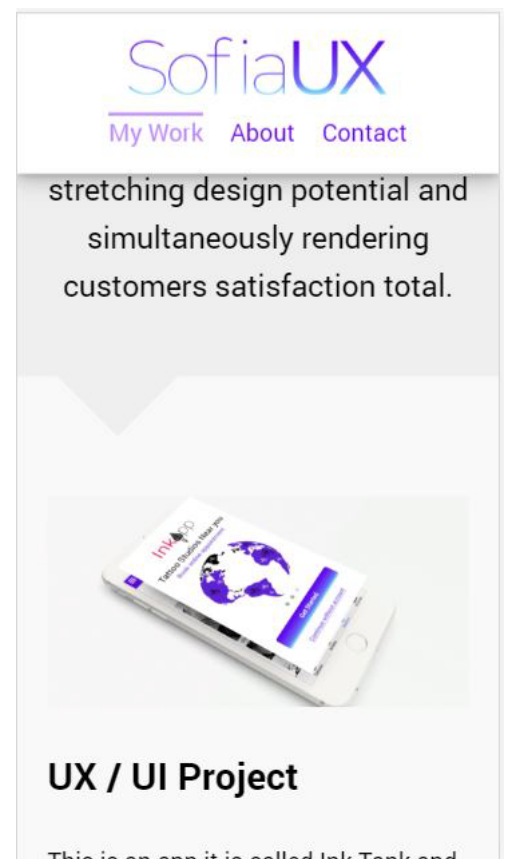
Desktop



iPad



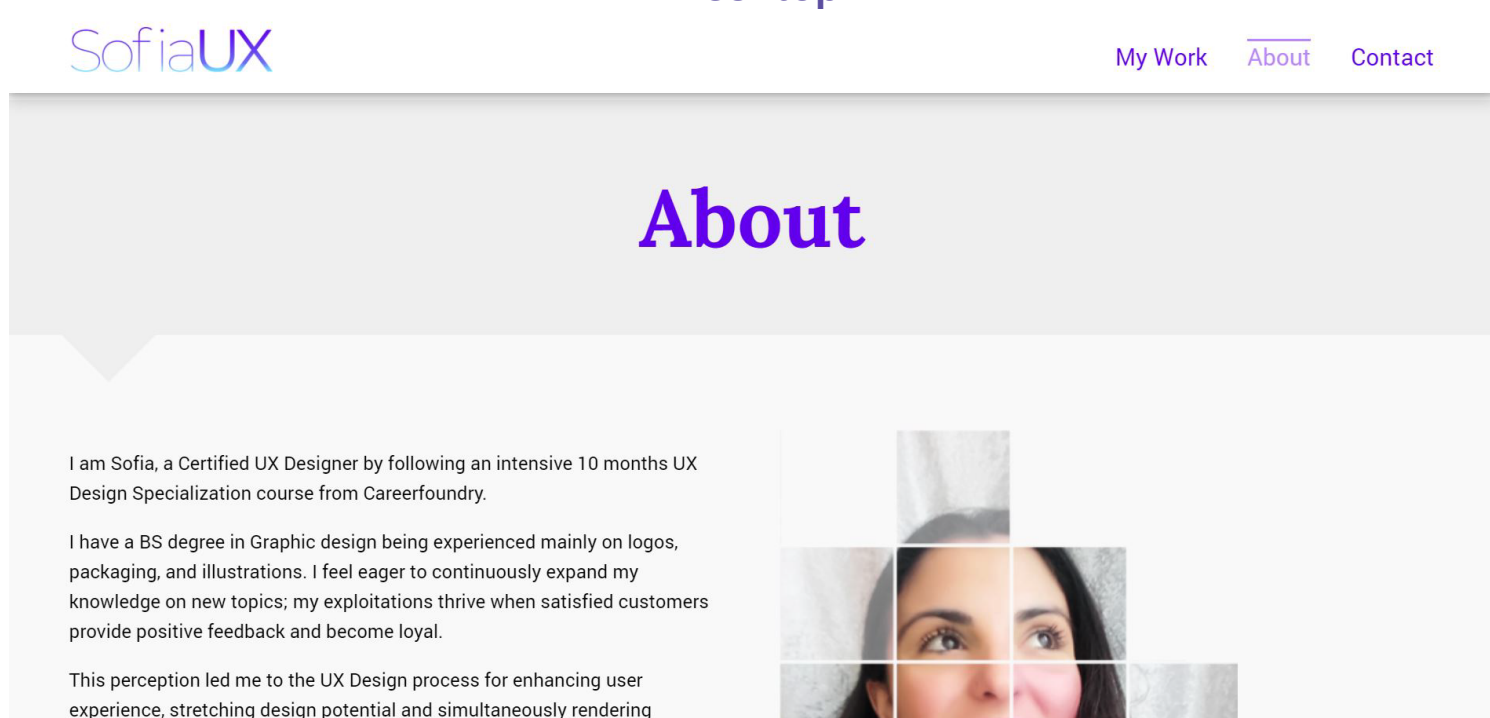
Mobile



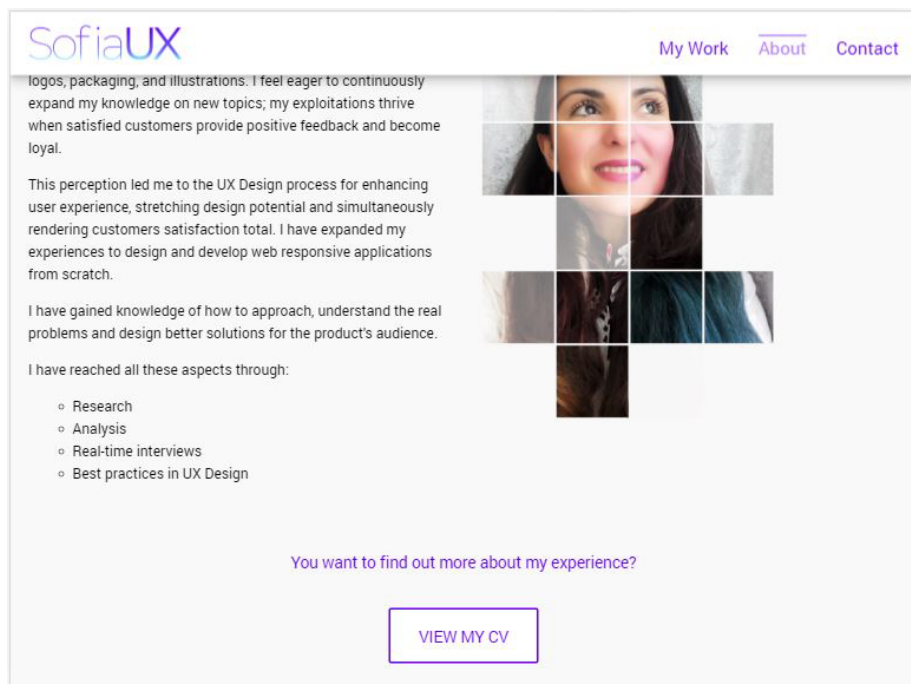
Solution:

Below is the About page of my website with a two column layout where there is a small description about me and a personal photo on the right. It follows a call to action button that links my CV pdf with the site and below a gif related with a curriculum document

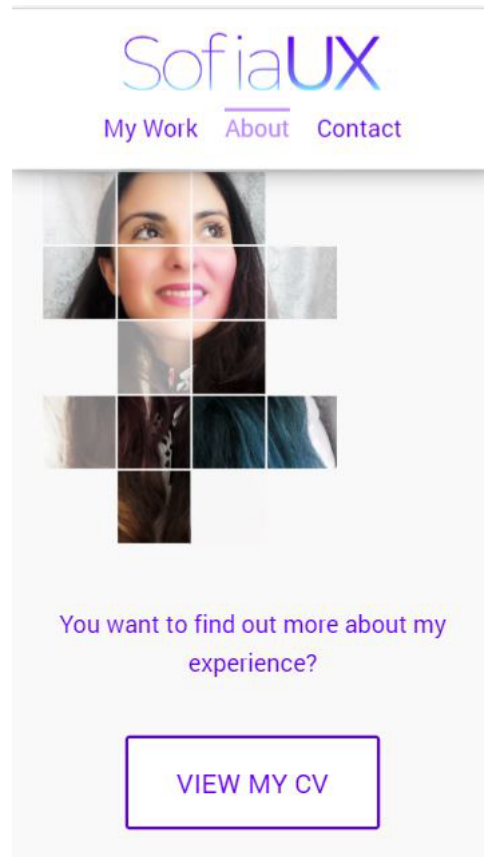
Desktop



iPad



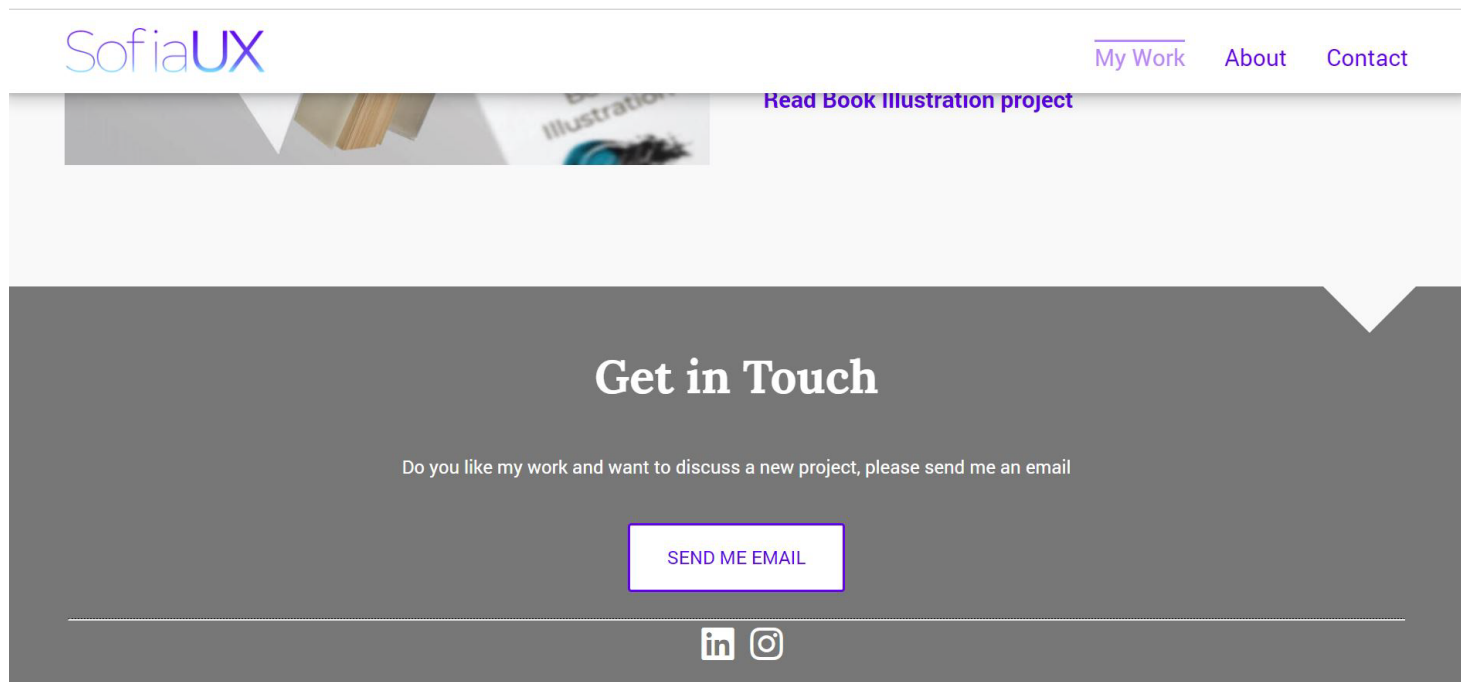
Mobile



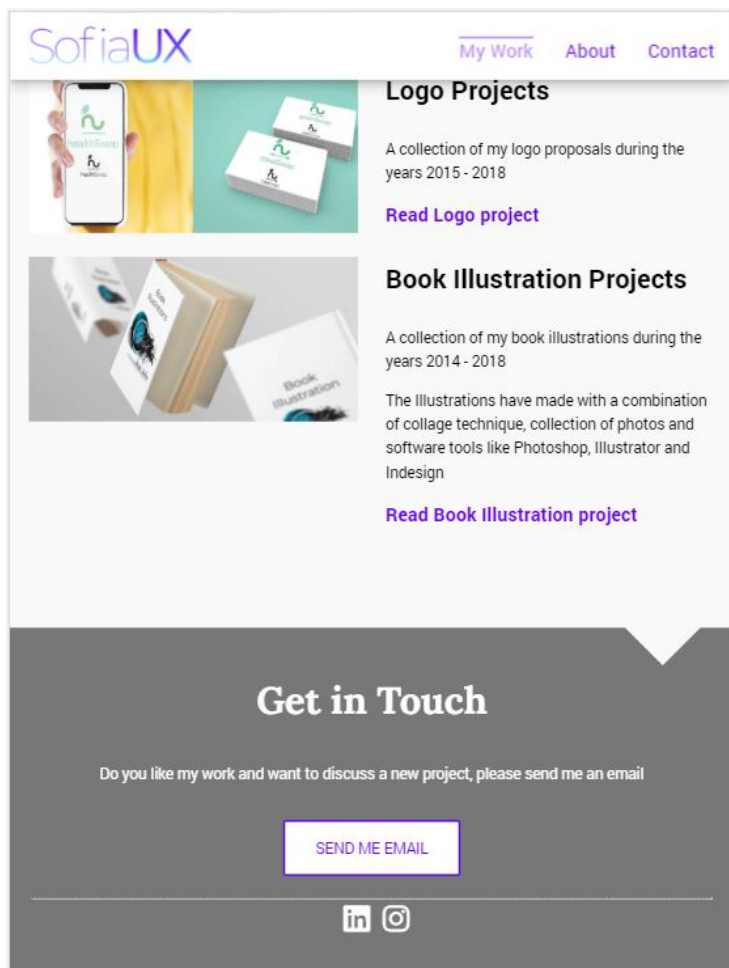
Solution:

Below is the Contact section of my website who stands at the footer for both My Work and About pages. This section consists from a call to action button that users can directly send me an email message.

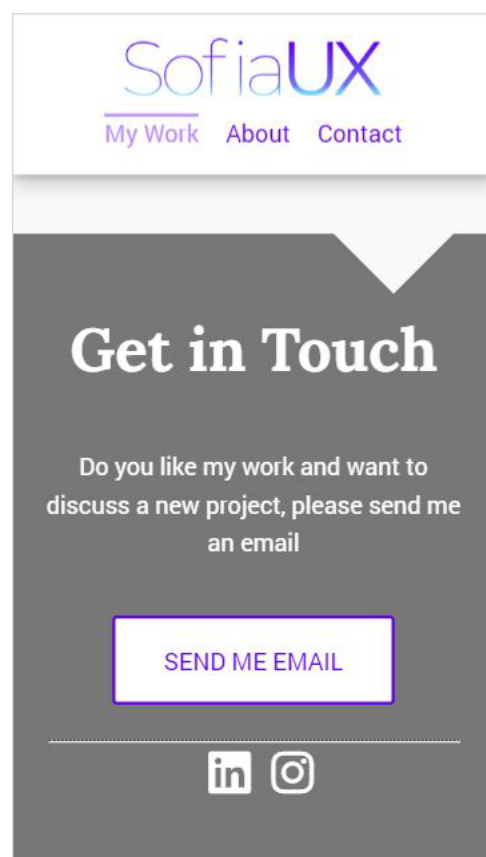
Desktop



iPad



Mobile



Result:

I will establish my website once all the content and the final styling will be done.

Iterations of usability testing will be done and regarding the participant's feedback, I will make the improvements with the aim to launch a user center personal portfolio website.

You can view my temporary portfolio website at the following link:

<https://sofiaux.000webhostapp.com/index.html>

