

Welcome to ITTalents Season 15



IT TALENTS
Training Camp

Me

- ▶ Slavoazar Vargulev - slavoazar.vargulev@ittalents.bg
- ▶ Graduated Structural Engineering in UACG
- ▶ Worked in a car parts warehouse when I decided that I will become a programmer
- ▶ **7 years in the IT.** From Season 5 of IT Talents to Junior Developer, Regular, Senior, Technical Team Lead, freelance practice and from recently working on building a small company - [How I ended up in IT](#)
- ▶ Various projects in healthcare, entrepreneurship, production control, gaming, etc.
- ▶ Currently working on a large project, together with 70 developers in production planning for large factories
- ▶ Was mentor to many people during the first months of their career
- ▶ Conducted more than 500 interviews for positions varying from junior to senior
- ▶ This is my second season in ITT, so brace yourselves...
- ▶ Hobbies - Football, go-karts, F1, Running, Health, Psychology, Self improvement



You

- ▶ Selected from more than 650 applicants
- ▶ More than 6 people fighting for your chair
- ▶ Passed two complex tests
- ▶ Passed one important interview

- ▶ 40-50% of you will graduate
- ▶ 90-100% of graduates will find a job as junior developers



You

- ▶ If you start from scratch, don't think that success is impossible - there are lots of cadets who knew nothing in the beginning and now work in leading software companies! I am one of them :)
- ▶ If you already have some knowledge about software development - success is not 100% guaranteed - lots of overconfident people have failed!



Being a Software Developer

► Pros

- Interesting and inspiring work
- Well-paid
- Participate in meetings and discuss important stuff
- Constantly learn new technologies
- Fantastic career path



Being a Software Developer

► Cons

- Constantly have to improve yourself
- Have to think a lot
- Huge responsibilities
- Costly mistakes
- **Need to be a team player**
- Need to take it really seriously
- **Need to pass successfully this course!**

About this course

- ▶ Separated in 2 major parts - each one for **2 months, 2 times a week**
- ▶ Programming Basics, Basic Web Development, OOP
- ▶ Advanced Web Development, Web APIs, ReactJS



About this course

- ▶ Programming Basics and algorithms
- ▶ **Test 1 - on paper**
- ▶ Introduction to Web Development, OOP
- ▶ **Test 2**
- ▶ **Technical Interview**
- ▶ Advanced Web Development, Web APIs
- ▶ **Test 3**
- ▶ Building modern web apps with ReactJS
- ▶ **Test 4**
- ▶ Final Project



Rules and regulations

- ▶ Attend **all** classes - if you can not attend on some class you **MUST warn** the trainer **and** the administration via email :
- ▶ slavozar.vargulev@ittalents.bg
- ▶ 0888 201 606 - Office ITTalents
- ▶ office@ittalents.bg
- ▶ **Be on time!**

Rules and regulations

- ▶ All lessons will be in the ITTalents Office.
- ▶ Some lessons might be via Zoom video calls.
 - All cameras have to be ON during lessons.
 - Participation is encouraged, so try to be unmuted whenever possible and communicate with the trainer
- ▶ Switch off cell phones, don't use them.
- ▶ Eating in the classroom or in front of the camera is forbidden

Rules and regulations

- ▶ Communication with trainer outside of scheduled lessons will also be either in the classroom or via Discord or Zoom.
- ▶ If you need personal attention about something that you don't understand you must make appointment with your trainer outside of the classes schedule or for a call or chat.

Homework

- ▶ After each lecture!
- ▶ Homework is **mandatory**
- ▶ Limited time to complete (meet the deadline)
- ▶ Global feedback is provided
- ▶ Additional reading is part of the homework
- ▶ Unfinished class tasks are also part of the homework
- ▶ Failing to submit three homeworks on time will lead to drop out of the course



Homework - how to prepare

- ▶ Check the presentation from the lesson
 - ▶ Watch the video
 - ▶ Search for additional materials in the Internet
 - ▶ If you still have difficulties - ask the trainer
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- ▶ Ask only things that you did not find in google! Data-mining and googling is essential skill for a software developer. Yes! I mean it!

Homework - what is the purpose

- ▶ Learning through doing
- ▶ Being a programmer is to apply large sets of knowledge constantly in practice
- ▶ Learn to solve problems, learn different approaches for solving different problem types
- ▶ Each problem may consist of simpler problems met in previous tasks
- ▶ Task solving leads to experience gaining. Experience gaining leads to better task solving skills

Homework - recommendations

- ▶ Do not skip easy tasks - exercise your coding speed on them.
- ▶ Think about what you have learned after each task. Each solution helps you for further tasks in class and in life.
- ▶ Separate complex tasks in smaller simpler tasks which you can solve easier

Tests

- ▶ Your skills and knowledge will be tested many times and in many ways during the course
- ▶ **Four** official tests during the course
- ▶ Unknown number of unofficial tests
- ▶ Theoretical and practical part in each test
- ▶ Minimum score required for passing
- ▶ Eliminations. No mercy!



Tests

- ▶ You cannot study for the test alone. The only way to pass is by studying for each lesson daily.
- ▶ No ONE-TIME-ALL-NIGHTER strategy doesn't work here
- ▶ The University Student`s way does not work for the tests
- ▶ Cheating is fatal. Don`t test me!



Tests - preparation

- ▶ Practice lessons - 30% of the course. Tasks solving and solutions discussions
- ▶ You have to learn how to solve problems. This is the key to success.
- ▶ Discussions on most difficult parts of the study material - best practices and common mistakes.

Tests - preparation

- ▶ Test recap lesson before each test
- ▶ Interview rehearsal
 - Each one of you will be interviewed by the teacher and a senior guest interviewer.
 - We will be the bad guys. We are really good at being bad. We will make you feel uncomfortable.
 - Real interview questions based on covered material and beyond
- ▶ Common mistakes will be discussed
- ▶ **This is all for your own good!**

Moodle

- ▶ All materials in Moodle - <https://study.ittalents.bg/>
- ▶ **Lectures** will be submitted there (along with video recordings)
- ▶ **Homeworks** will be submitted there
- ▶ **Tests** will be submitted there
- ▶ Books, articles and additional materials uploaded there

- ▶ Check moodle regularly!
- ▶ You need to register and **activate account via email!**

Final Project

- ▶ At the end of the course
- ▶ One week for project preparation
- ▶ Team work!
- ▶ Demos in front of teachers every 2 days
- ▶ Teachers are the clients, the owners and the project managers
- ▶ Work with version control system

The Last Step

- ▶ Technical interviews with companies
- ▶ Companies know your profile.
- ▶ Teachers provide feedback and grades
- ▶ 4 months of efforts come down to 15 minutes of talking
- ▶ Make it happen!



This whole course - Pros

- ▶ Will prepare you for the goddamn interviews
- ▶ Will make you a great programmer and you will receive great job offer!
- ▶ Will teach you so much things for free!
- ▶ Will improve your ability to think
- ▶ Will make more serious and responsible person
- ▶ Will teach you to work in team and make new friends



This whole course - Cons

- ▶ You have to be really motivated and proactive
- ▶ You have to learn a lot of things by yourself
- ▶ You must really work a lot!
- ▶ You have to pass some tests or you'll drop off
- ▶ You have to give up of some activities if you want to succeed - university, sports, **work**, etc.
- ▶ You'll have to complete all homeworks on time and ask for more in case it was easy
- ▶ You'll have to forget about apologies



Expectations

- ▶ Take it or leave it
- ▶ Give more than expected
- ▶ Forget about university and other courses
- ▶ Do not cheat yourself
- ▶ **Ask and talk every time you don't understand something**



Expectations

- ▶ Work!
- ▶ Study! You are here for this.
- ▶ We will push you. We will guide you! But it's you who has to do it. We just know how.
- ▶ Work extra. Ask for extra. Show extra. Be proactive.
- ▶ Ask questions. Correct the teacher.
- ▶ Be a leader or find one to follow



On the finish line

- ▶ Everybody who meets all of the above
 - Technical interviews
 - Job offer
 - Final Party
 - and ...

They are real!



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