Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Business and Management

Software Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY, FULLSTACK MODULE

**LEARNING DIARY**

31.1.2022

I started by reading through the course information pages and figuring out what the course is about. After reading the course pages I started setting up the environment I’m going to use during the course. I decided to use VS Code as my text editor since I have used it previously and I had it already installed. However, even though I have worked with Node.js, MongoDB and Express.js (and React) on a previous course I didn’t have any of them installed because I reinstalled Windows recently. I used nvm to install Node.js v12.22.9. I had a bit of trouble setting it as the currently used version, but I just had to run the command prompt as an administrator to get it to work. Then I installed MongoDB since I know I will be using it during the course.

7.2.2022

I watched through the updated video for NodeJS and followed along copying and creating a similar “project” as shown in the video. Although I have worked with NodeJS before, I hadn’t really worked with it so much without using some other tools such as express before. Getting more familiar with some of the core modules and getting a reminder how to work with NodeJS was nice. It was also good to get a better understanding about how to make a simple http server only using NodeJS.

9.2.2022

I watched through the new video for MongoDB and followed along with it creating a simple database structure. I also quickly scrolled through the old video in the hopes that it went through how to work with MongoDB in JavaScript. Although working with it using the console is comparable and I have worked with it before I would have liked to see a more concrete examples in JavaScript maybe even using MongoDB with a simple http server. But I guess that’s coming later in the MEAN-stack part of the course.

25.2.2022

I first watched the new crash course video of Express JS and followed along like with the previous topics. However, since I realized that the new video didn’t include a database I created a simple MongoDB database with a single collection and used it for storing user information. After watching the newer video, I quickly skipped through the old one to see if there was anything useful. It included for example using Express validator, and express generator, but since I have used them in the past, I decided not to focus on them. The video also included implementing MongoDB into an express application using MongoJS but since I already did it using Mongoose, I decided to not focus on it too much either. In the end I had a simple web server with rendered views and a simple API for adding and listing database entries.

9.3.2022

I went through about half of the Angular “Tour of heroes” project tutorial. As I have worked with React before I can see some of the similarities between React and Angular, like the use of reusable components to build web pages. However, from what I remember from working with React, Angular seems more complicated. That could just be the combination of the tutorial going into a lot of detail and me not using React all that much.

19.3.2022

I completed the “Tour of heroes” tutorial for Angular. In the end I have a working Angular project almost identical to the one built in the tutorial. It’s almost identical because for some reason I had trouble with some of the CSS not working on some of the components. Notably the dashboard component which for somehow isn’t affected by the changes made in the CSS file for the component despite it working fine for all other components. Even after copy-pasting basically all of the code, the component was still looking like a plain HTML document with no CSS applied.

30.3.2022

I’ve been sick with covid for the past couple of days in addition to being busy with other schoolwork, so I have to rush a little bit to get this course done before the end date. I started going through the MEAN stack tutorial videos. I almost got through the first 6 parts of the tutorial series following along writing my own code simultaneously like I did for the other tutorials. I’ve had some major problems getting everything to work like shown in the tutorials, probably mostly due to the tutorial using older versions of some of the node packages. I’ve had to go digging for the older package version numbers in the tutorial’s GitHub repository multiple times and at first, I couldn’t get the “ng serve” command to build the Angular app with the older version of angular. To get it to build the app I had to comment out the first reference in “angular-src/node\_modules/@types/node/index.d.ts” which is not a permanent change since the file is in the node\_modules folder and I’ll probably need to look into finding a permanent fix for this at some point. In addition to that I’ve had to use different syntax in some parts of code other than the ones mentioned on the course page although these mostly didn’t take up all that much time figuring out.

31.3.2022

I finished the tutorials for the MEAN stack app after which I had a similar MEAN stack application to the one built in the tutorial. Because I was running out of time to complete the course work in time, I decided to heavily base my project work on the MEAN stack application I already had. I added checks to the backend so that undefined values wouldn’t crash it. I also added backend checks and validation for the credentials while registering a new account. I made most of the messaging from the backend show to the user using the flash messages. I changed the “dashboard” view into the “new post” view and built the backend and database to support saving distributing the posts. I added a list of all of the posts saved in the database to the “Home” view so that there was some way to view them.