Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Business and Management

Sofware Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY,

Introduction to workflow and sass MODULE

I learned about workflow and especially about sass. I’ve never even heard about sass, so the module taught me a lot. The first module was basically setting up the environment which was very new to me sense I’m new to this whole frontend stuff. VS code live server extension turned out to be the huge quality of live extension I learned about and am planning on using every one of my frontend projects. I’ve tried HTML in the past but all my memories about tags etc. are pretty much vanished so it was good to relearn about all that. VS code automatic html boilerplate using the “! + tab” is a must.

**Homepage and Core Sass/CSS**

I learned more about HTMl, new tags such as div, list-item etc. Learned about how sass automatically gets compiled to main.css. I’m completely a noob in CSS so basically everything about it was new to me. CSS seems to be a straightforward programming language and I consider it fast to learn. The tutorial explains the CSS pretty good but for a complete noob it’s kind of hard to remember all this stuff. “Basics of CSS” is kind of needed here before this course.

**Rotating Menu Button**

This module was all about the transform effect. I learned that with transform I can create all sorts of stuff, it’s a powerful tool. It was fascinating to see how the three lines in the menu button turned in to an x with just a few lines of CSS. According to the lecturer it takes a lot of trial and error with the coordinates and stuff to get it right which I completely understand. Learned about JavaScript which again is completely new stuff to me. Learned how HTML, CSS and JavaScript work together to build a responsive, functional website.

**Menu Overlay & Responsiveness**

I learned about media queries and responsiveness. I’ve always wondered how some websites scale in such a horrible way when using a mobile phone and now finally I know why. I thought it would take a lot more lines of code to fix the responsiveness of a website but apparently it can be done in a few lines. Also learned that in frontend development devices are often divided in to 4 categories, small, medium, large and XL. These would correlate for example to mobile phone, tablet, computer screen and 4K screen.

**Page With CSS Grid**

I learned about CSS grid. It’s surprisingly easy to define the grids and get the page looking the way I intended it to look like. Just by defining the “grid-template-areas” I have a basic layout that I can now use to display content. The tutorial also introduced the “set-text-color” function which was a custom-made function to change the text’s color based on its background. I thought it was a neat and simple way to make sure text doesn’t get overwhelmed by its surroundings.

**Work and Contact Pages**

In this part the lecturer showed how to create Work and Contact pages. What was interesting to me was that the lecturer copy pasted the home page and used them as a template for the new page. Just by tweaking here and there it was possible to skip on a lot of work and get a great looking page with minimum effort. I also learned about how to make a “sticky” footer.

**Website Deployment**

I think out of all parts this was the most interesting one, even though it had the least amount of coding. I’ve always wondered how “deployment” works in the simplest way. Of course, this is not the way to deploy a complex website with databases and such but for a personal website this a great way (and most importantly it's free). I learned about GitHub pages and how it works to deploy the repository to a github.io website. However, the tutorial is a bit outdated, so the method shown in the video did not work for me, so I did some googling. Turns out the GitHub repository name must be username.github.io for it to work and the whole deployment process can be done straight from the website. Other than that, the deployment went fine, I could access the website from my phone. I also noticed that the responsive design was a bit off on the phone, so it needs a bit work.