Lappeenrannan-Lahden teknillinen yliopisto LUT

School of Engineering Science

Software Development Skills

Ville Puolitaival, 0537013

LEARNING DIARY, FRONT-END MODULE

**29.11.2020 – Starting off**

I was very excited to start the course and learn about HTML, CSS, and JavaScript since I do not have very deep understanding with these subjects. I have previously (over 5 years ago) done couple of dull looking web pages with plain HTML but never actually included any dynamic styling elements with it. At this stage everything looks quite frightening but hopefully I manage through it as I have heard this course is not especially very hard.

Setting up the environment went quite nicely without too big problems. I am familiar with GitHub already and making a repository went fine without any guidance. Since I have never used Visual Studio Code for any projects, I decided to use it for this course as I have heard it is good for managing projects. Usually I have used mostly SublimeText 3, but it is more of a plain text editor than development environment.

I watched the first part *Introduction to workflow and sass* and tried to keep up with the video while installing all these things I have no idea of. I learned that sass is actually CSS extension that makes designing web pages easier. This was also my first time to anything related to Node.js, which I have heard in many places but never known what it is. Well, I still do not know what it is, but at least it has a package manager (npm) that needs to be used when working with sass. I liked that the video also introduced a few VS Code extensions that make developing the code easier.

One bigger problem I encountered during the first part was *npm* trying to run the “sass” script “node-sass -w scss/ -o dist/css/ --recursive”. At first, I found out that the folder structure of ./coursework/ was making difficulties for me but adjusting the file structure and opening the terminal in right folder fixed that problem. Then the script started acting up by telling me the scss-file is unreadable. Googling for a while resulted me into conclusion that it is a bug. I somehow managed to find a fix for the problem from node-sass GitHub discussion post from 2018, which I questioned a bit as I figured this would have been fixed after all this time. Anyway, I managed to change the background color after all, and I hope that the sass script will keep working when actually starting to create the web page.