Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Business and Management

Sofware Development Skills

Dana Blumenstein, 001100789

LEARNING DIARY, FRONT-END MODULE

**LEARNING DIARY**

28.11.2022  
  
I started the course and understood what it was about and how to complete it. I decided to first learn how git works and set up a repository for the course. I already created a “Coursework” and a “Project” folder for this repository.

I finally understood how to use git over the terminal (on MacOS), which I never did in my study program until now. I installed Visual Studio Code as well as Atom, as I worked with both in the past and I am not quite sure which one I am going to use in this course. In the first semester of my studies I already worked with frontend, which is why I wanted to deepen my knowledge and signed up for this module. At that time, we worked with Atom, but I haven’t heard of that editor in other contexts until now and I might try using VS Code this time. What I am most happy about is that I finally got an introduction on how to use git, which is a huge step in my Software Development “career”.

04.12.2022

Today I decided on how to proceed with this Learning Diary.

22.12.2022

I started to watch the first video and got an introduction to Sass. As I thought it would be the easiest to follow along, I decided to also use VS Code editor for this course and installed addons such as LiveServer and Prettier. I also installed Node.js and worked through the first video until the end, which means I created folders like dist and scss to work with on the example project.

I had some trouble with the end of the video, because the creator initializes a new git repository for the modern\_portfolio folder. I proceeded the same way as him with the .gitignore file, but realized I already had one in my main repository, so I just added the path of the node\_modules folder and got it ignored in my own repository without having to follow the last steps of the video.

Right now, I’m not sure if it’s a problem with the two branches on git, because I push to master branch and there is also a main branch. Might be confusing, but I’m pretty sure I looked it up when I watched the introduction to git, and it was right this way.

25.12.2022

I watched the second video and besides from setting up some classes and the navigation elements in the .html-file of the example project, I learned and did the following:

The most important thing might probably be the use shortcuts in VS Code, for example setting up a class by typing .class and press TAB to complete the line, or copying code fragments using shift+option+down. I included the fontawesome link from the video in my .html-document, because I had to sign up on the original fontawesome.com page and wasn’t sure if the link I got there works the same (I copied it into my document but commented it out).

Then I created the js folder with a .js-file in it. I also learned about variables, for example to reuse specific colors, the rgba-value for opacity and the z-index which stands for depth inside of the page (to put something in the background or closer to oneself).

But most importantly I’ve worked with Sass because of the video and understood what it is being used for. In the past I’ve only worked with CSS itself and didn’t know about the things I just described yet.

Later I googled a lot and tried to fix the branches on git, but encountered some problems while switching the branch over my terminal and switched back to the master branch. I am probably going to try and fix that some other time.

I also watched the third video and created the rotating menu button. Another shortcut I learned while doing this was how to select several same strings one after another by highlighting one and press Ctrl + D. I understood how to show and close (in this case) nav items. It is interesting how the example project creates the menu button itself. In the past I have used an icon. Like this I also learned how to transform single lines for example.

Additionally, I learned how to split up .scss-files and import different ones into the main file.

26.12.2022

I started watching the fourth video about the Menu Overlay & Responsiveness. I’ve learned how to use the &-character to add classes to the class I am already in in the Sass-file. I also learned how to position specific items vertically and horizontally and how to style them. To avoid scroll bars, overflow always needs to be hidden. To darken or lighten colors a little bit, there are useful functions that need the color and the parameter of how much one wants to darken/lighten that specific color. I already knew about list-style that hides the bulletpoints if it is set to none.

An important function that was shown in the video was translate3d(). It helps for example the menu to slide into the viewport smoothly, depending on how the parameters are set (if from the top, left, right, or bottom).

I also learned how to implement a delay for each individual item (nth-child), which can also be useful in the future.

27.12.2022

I continued working on the fourth video and learned a bit about responsiveness. From what I’ve learned in the past I already knew about the four different screen sizes that are also being used in the video. Still, I had no clue about how to implement them as Sass functions / Mixins as I did not work with Sass before.

I think the responsive part of the example project would be best to use for my own project as well, because I cannot think of any reason why I would need to change that, if it works so well.

Also, this might be my favorite part of the course until now, because responsiveness is such a useful topic to go through and it is easy to understand why the person in the video is doing what he is doing and how one could change that according to their own wishes.

28.12.2022

I worked through the fifth video and therefore created a color function which I will probably be using in my own project as well. It makes sure that there won’t be any unreadable texts in terms of how background and text color work together.

The “About Me”-html page part was not very new to me, because I have worked with html a little before, but what I learned was another way of creating the CSS grid.

29.12.2022

In the sixth video only the last two html pages were created, so nothing completely new for me. But I learned a bit how to style them in a different way again. I think in general I learned a lot about CSS with the usage of Sass and I think it might even be easier this way. The easeOut feature is another thing I would probably use in all of my future works as I really like what it does to the User Experience. I even got better knowledge in responsiveness and found it a lot easier to follow along while reproducing the example project.

The next step is to use that project to create my own.

30.12.2022

MY PROJECT

* First steps, decided to create a website about my finland trips
* Created dist, scss, index.html, main.scss, set up connection between scss and CSS
* Changed .gitignore from Coursework/modern\_portfolio/node\_modules to \*\*/node\_modules to ignore the folder in my project as well
* Created journey.html and started configuring Sass file (just to add my Finland journeys equivalent to the work from the example project and I needed to configure the easeOut mixin). Copied everything from the \_config.scss file, because I wouldn’t know what exactly to change there.
* Chose some photos from all the trips from the past and got the idea to include a picture carousel, which we have used in the other media informatics course before.
* Carousel didn’t work out, chose 1 photo for each trip
* Created \_mobile.scss without menu branding & nav
* Edited the menu screen, had some problems with the picture

31.12.2022

* Fixed the picture problem partly, changed the text and link colors
* Googled how to make the picture in the menu responsive (didngt work)
* I redesigned the About Me page and added some additional background images
* Included picture carousel on top of the journey page, because every single trip with carousel would have been too much anyways (needed to import bootstrap for that, but only on journeys.html)

**EXAMPLE STYLE 2**

10.9.2018

I learned about,

version control, but mostly it was just refreshing my memory. What I learned was…

how to develop as a becoming software professional. I find <something> interesting, because…

how to set up Atom environment with addons. There was one problem that took me a lot of time to solve. The problem was about …

Etc.

**EXAMPLE STYLE 3**

Freeform.

Something else, but reasonable. You must document what you have done, learned and when this have happened.