

Purdue Unal Ironhacks winners – Form

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Community Spirit Winner

1. (Start of the hack)

- a. If you look back to the start of the hack when you first learned about it, what made you want to participate?

Well, they were several reasons.

First, since some months ago I had to planned to learn about web technologies but lacked a stimule. So, the hack helped too much.

Second, sincerely the Amazon cards were my first objective. I needed some money.

Third, it's a new challenge that it doesn't be see all days. So, I had no reason not to participate.

2. (Training period)

- a. Once the program had started, how did you make yourself familiar with the technologies during the training phases (HTML, CSS, javascript, D3.js)?

I started to interact with Google Maps API and open data. I tested how obtain data and how show it.

- i. How and how much did you use the material provided via www.ironhacks.com? Which materials were particularly helpful (e.g. videos, etc.)?

Javascript video and sample project were helpful for me. The first for learn about it and the second for know how obtain open data.

- ii. What other sources and material did you use, and how did they help you in the preparation?

Google Maps API has several tutorials that help me too much. Also, I read several books about Javascript, CSS and JSON.

- iii. Did you interact with your tech experts during the tech sessions? If so, what did you learn there? What didn't you learn there what you were hoping for?

I didn't participate in the tech sessions.

3. (First submission): Describe the process and how you worked on you first app before the first submission deadline. (probe: barriers he encountered)

- a. Tell me how you tried to understand the tasks?

I understood the task. The idea was: Show the safest and more affordable rental house for a new student at Stern School of Business.

b. Tell me about your hacking process during the 3 days from start of the hacking phase until you submitted.

i. When and where did you work?

I worked at home on the last day. As I had already tried with Google Maps and Javascript, then it was just copy, paste and edit a bit.

ii. How many iterations did you make locally before pushing your first submission into the Git repo?

In general, I only made one in each phase.

iii. From whom did you seek help and how often? (friends, professors, online sources like...?)

I was not helped by anyone.

b. Was there anything holding you back from building the functions and features that you wanted to implement? (If yes, probe)

No, there was not.

c. How did you make use of any material from the training during this process? (e.g. the tutorials, the videos, etc.)

Javascript video and sample project were helpful for me. The first for learn about it and the second for know how obtain open data.

d. How did you engage on the discussion on www.ironhacks.com?

Looking to improve my application, I asked several things and then I gave my opinion about the questions that others were asking.

e. What was your reaction after you received the first feedback from the judges about your app via email and via the forum?

I expected another kind of feedback. I thought I was going to receive recommendations like: You could improve it in this way or You should use this or You should look this or something like that.

Also, I didn't understand how it was the evaluation. For example, in the third phase I got 4 user requirements points when it didn't work. But, in the fourth phase, I only got 1 point when it worked. This also they should be part of feedback. Know why the points are given or aren't.

i. (hacker from bogota 2)

1. How did you explore the various applications? How many apps did you look it?

What did you look at: the code or the running application?

In general, I saw all the applications.

I rarely saw the code.

2. When you looked at the code what did you look for? If you looked at the app what did you look for?

My intention was to see how much competitiveness there was. How functional it was and, in the code, how much potential it had.

3. Did you find the best apps the most relevant ones for your work?

No, I didn't. Look the other applications was just to inform me.

4. Following submissions:

i. In the following submissions, what did you do differently compared to the first round?

I was comparing my app with the others. Thus, I established the scope of the next phase to maintain my position.

ii. In which phase did you think you improved the most?

In the third phase. I changed the visualization and rewrote the code.

iii. How did you prioritize your activities?

In each README file I wrote these activities. Some of them I could do them. I can summarize it in the following way:

Phase 1: Datasets

Phase 2: Zillow

Phase 3: Styles

Phase 4: Cheapest and Closest Option

Phase 5: Safest Option and Charts

iv. When did you change direction of your activities?

Every time a phase ended, I evaluated what I had done and analyzed the next step according to the availability of time.

5. Reflection:

a. What would you have done differently if you could start over again?

I don't know. I think I worked well. Maybe, more time availability was necessary. It was not easy to divide the time to perform well both in the subjects and in the hack.

b. Compare the IronHacks to other hacks on campus, and/or traditional hacks.

The most important thing for me are the breaks. It is good to have two days to have a cool head and think about the next step. Also, have the option of help the other hackers is good. It invites you to be much more productive.

6. Future activities:

a. What are you planning to do next with the app, if anything?

I don't have planned anything. I didn't like to work with Zillow API. With its restriction you have to think about optimizing the number of tests. Also, I would have liked that the data was real. That is, have a dataset of the location of houses for rent and not an approximation.

Likewise, I would prefer to learn more every technology to redo the app in the best way.

b. If you had a lot of time, what would you do next?

Things that I had planned:

- Fix mistakes.
- InfoWindow
- Responsive Design

7. Clearinghouse: Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

Thanks for all!! :)