Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

Software Development Skills Front-End, Online course

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LEARNING DIARY

**Date :** 2024-07-09

**Activity :** Video lecture part 1: Setting up the environment and workflow

**Learning outcome:**

From the first video lecture, surprisingly, I learned some new techniques for coding in VS Code. I did not know that you can do the *HTML* document setup with *“! + tab”* in the future that will save so much time. Also the *“element.className”* and *“element#id”* were new acquaintances for me, I will for sure be using those in the future.

Aside from those I had not before used *sass* in this kind of project with no framework so it will be nice to learn more about it and the usage. I was already familiar with npm so had no problems with that. From the extensions the *Live Server* was a new one, though it seems practical and is a huge help, because I tend to forget to refresh my page when doing vanilla coding without a server which leads to me having a hard time to understand why the changes do not work (:D).

I was familiar with how to package.json is used and what is “stored” there so I now learned how to use the scripts. After the first lecture I am eager to continue the course and am excited to learn more about sass and other small improvements to my coding practices.

**Date :** 2024-07-09

**Activity :** Video lecture part 2: Homepage & Main Sass

**Learning outcome:**

Right from the start of this second lecture video I learned something new. I have always used *“ctrl + c”* and *“ctrl + v”* to multiply lines of code that I want to repeat. I had no I idea that you can just do *“element.className\*x”* to create as many elements of the same kind as you need. The other “copying” method was also new for me *“shift + alt + arrow (up/down)”* this will also be very helpful in the future.

I also learned more about the difference between *“em”* and *“rem”*. I was familiar with both, but now I finally “understood” the difference between them. I knew that both of those are relative, but now it’s clear that *rem* is relative to the html font-size and *em* is relative to the parent elements font-size.

I have used sass before, so I just deepened my knowledge of how it works and how to use it. I had not used *“@mixins”* like that before so it was new for me as well as the *“@if”* which seems like a great way to do toggles for styles.

**Date :** 2024-07-12

**Activity :** Video lecture part 3: Burger menu style and animation

**Learning outcome:**

I haven’t done a lot of CSS animations before, so this lecture helped me to understand better how and when to use *“transform*” and more specifically *“rotate”* and *“translate”*.

I don’t usually use *“querySelector”* when DOM scripting, but after this lesson, I learned more about it and when I should use it instead of *“.getElementsByClass(‘className’)”*. I was at first a bit confused why we used *“querySelector”*, but now that I looked more into it, I understood. Using *“querySelector”* in this case gives more options and different ways to manipulate the CSS. For example, we can toss *for-loops* and use *“*.*forEach()”* instead and use the *“:nth-child(x)”* to manipulate specific child elements.

**Date :** 2024-07-12

**Activity :** Video lecture part 4: Menu overlay

**Learning outcome:**

I had not known that you can do “partial” naming in CSS. But it makes sense that if the initial part is the same that you don’t need to repeat that repeatedly. Also, the *“translate3d()”* was new. I haven’t used it before, as I said, CSS animations are new for me. Though, it seems quite easy to use and I can see myself using it in some of my future projects.

Altogether this lecture helped to deepen my understanding of CSS manipulation and what we can accomplish simply with manipulation of the styles. After this lecture, I will look more closely at the *“transform”* and *“translate”* properties.

**Date :** 2024-07-22

**Activity :** Video lecture part 4: Responsiveness

**Learning outcome:**

This “second” part of video 4 did not really have a lot of stuff done. I learned more about how mixins can be used. However, the style change based on the size of the device using @media I was already familiar with.

**Date :** 2024-07-22

**Activity :** Video lecture part 5: About -page with CSS grid

**Learning outcome:**

The first new thing that I learned from this lecture was the function thing. I did I guess know that you can do functions with SASS but have not actually done any before this. However, it seems like a great tool especially if you are designing/building sites that have multiple different styles available like dark, light, enhanced etc. I think it could be used differently as well but cannot think of any other example at this moment.

Another thing that I learned was about the sample text. I knew that if you type “Lorem” you will get sample text, but I did not know that you can specify the number of words you would like to generate.

This was also the first time for me using *“grid-area”*. It seems great for creating multiline grids. Before I have used the “grid-column: X / span X” method, but this seems like a better and simpler way of designing grids. This also makes it easier to manipulate how I want the columns to be represented in different screens.

**Date :** 2024-07-24

**Activity :** Video lecture part 6: Work & Contact Pages

**Learning outcome:**

Had already used all the techniques that were used in this lecture, so I do not have anything to add to this from this lecture, but to tell that I watched it and added the things to my site.

**Date :** 2024-07-24

**Activity :** Testing the site to see what I want to change

**Learning outcome:**

* Overall:
  + Change the color scheme (make sure the color contrast is okay)
  + Add my own pictures
  + Add actual links to projects and social media
  + Personalize content
  + Make main content padding smaller on mobile
* Menu:
  + For better accessibility make the menu opaque
  + Prevent main content scrolling when menu is open
* Home page
  + Fix issue with social media icons (responsivity problem, looks dum when on smaller screen)
  + Maybe change the background image to something else
* About me
  + Fix issue responsivity problem (does not look correct on screens under 400px which includes a lot of phones)
  + Correct accessibility issue with too small font on h6 elements
* Work
  + Make item “cards” function/look better 🡪 why the need for 3 links?
  + Add:
    - Project title
    - summary of project
* Contact
  + Fix responsivity problem 🡪 does not look correct on screens under 500px which includes a lot of phones
  + CSS can make the boxes “glitch” 🡪 uncontrollable back and forth between the set styles

**Date :** 2024-07-25

**Activity :** Updating menu and home page

**Learning outcome:**

The first thing I did to make the site more like me was to fix/update the menu. I added a class that toggles the overflow of the body element when the menu is opened/closed. This prevents the main content from being scrolled up/down when on the menu. I also made the background opaque, so menu headings are easier to read and don’t “vanish” on the background content.

I also updated the home page content. I added my own name, title, and links to my social media. I improved the responsivity by adding an @media for XS screens (this basically just makes the site accessible for people with a screen size of 320px which is the smallest on the market), where I just made the main headings a bit smaller so those fit the screen better. Alongside making the headings smaller I made the *main* areas padding smaller on smartphones, as well as adding top margin to the h1 element of all pages so the content does not overlap with the menu icon.

**Date :** 2024-07-26

**Activity :** Updating about me page

**Learning outcome:**

I started updating About me -page content.

**Date :** 2024-08-10

**Activity :** Updating about me page

**Learning outcome:**

I finished updating About me -page content.

**Date :** 2024-08-15

**Activity :** Updating work page

**Learning outcome:**

Added personalized content to “work” -page. Added pictures from some of my projects and links to their GitHub pages and where those are running.

**Date :** 2024-08-18

**Activity :** Update contact page

**Learning outcome:**

Added personalized content to contact -page. I added a link for email that opens the email app, also added redirect to phone number which is still fake because I do not want to add my personal phone number for this project. I also added a link to Google Maps. It is atm redirecting to my school’s address.

I also removed the padding change from the box hover effect. It was glitching bad if the cursor was in a wrong spot in between two boxes. I deemed it unnecessary, so I decided to completely remove it.

**Date :** 2024-08-19

**Activity :** Updating site style

**Learning outcome:**

Change primary and secondary colors. Change the frontpage background image. Add text align to about me -page mobile version so the content is easier to read.

**Date :** 2024-08-21

**Activity :** Deploying the project

**Learning outcome:**

I have used GitHub pages with my laivii.github.io repository, but have not installed the packages before, just used the repository by adding new folder. Had some problems with invalid image routes, but I managed to fix those, and everything seems to be running just fine.

Also just noticed that the course material was updated. I hope this is still fine or I will just do the new one.