Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

LUT School of Engineering Sciences

Software Development Skills Front-End, Online course

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LEARNING DIARY, FRONT-END MODULE

LEARNING DIARY

1.10.2024

The start of course, studying and downloading necessary Git, VS-Code, SourceTree and created accounts to each that needed one. I browsed through all Moodle materials, to familiarize myself with the excising sources. I have used VSCode before, but in quite different way, so it seems I must learn the whole thing from the beginning. I looked through 3 of the Youtube videos done by the teacher: HTML- part 1, HTML- part 2 & JavaScript, part 1. After these I started with the module task list video introduction and base HTML. As with no previous experience in making a website with HTML I found the start very challenging which was the main reason to start the course later in December again, after other schoolwork's were finished. I think I should have started with a very simple introduction video to begin with, to understand what I am going to build here.

Additionally, I also had to familiarize myself with my computer's terminal, since I also had some trouble understanding the installing process. I also downloaded many of the necessary extensions from VSCode.

16.12.2024

My goal is to work this whole week on this project, to be able to submit it before the year changes, since I was able to have more time to finish it until then. I made two Git repositories, one for testing my connection, and one for the actual submission. This is because I worked with this problem for almost 5 hours and had no solution but to start over again. Finally, I was able to connect VS Code to GitHub, so it automatically pushes my changes to Git, after I commit to them. I have also downloaded Live Server. Later on, I discovered I stared this a little bit wrong way around.

I had some challenge understanding the beginning of module video, so eventually I have now watched it I think 3 times, so truly, having some trouble starting with the course. I have continued onto links and core css and buttons & utility classes. At this point I have

contacted my father to help me try understanding this course better. Not that he is an expert in front-end developing but has some little experience.

I chose to make this project a portfolio/work presenting project, so I have chosen my photos for this now. I have at this point created index.html, folder to images, style.css and js.main. My index.html includes headers for my name & title and I added links/icons to linkedin and github under them.

I did my style.css like they showed in YouTube, I plan to change the metric later onto when I have a steadier understanding of this course.

I chose the font Playfair Display, which is on Google Fonts. I selected some pictures out of my current work portfolio for this website, some of them are public, but some are not. I also added these photos to the portfolio with addition to links. I did think of also adding a video, and actually tried it, but I did not understand fast enough how to make it look nice, so I deleted it. I'll see later if I will decide to add it back. I have had to do some fixing on mistakes, but now I cannot find any obvious mistakes anymore. I have also decided on colors for this project, and a very easy minimalistic style for the boxes to include text.

17.12.2024

Today I watched CSS Grid & Cards part of the YouTube video, as well as three lectures from Erno Vanhala CSS, part I, part II, and part III. I learned about CSS and how to use it to design web pages, and it defines how HTML elements are displayed on the browser once launched. There are multiple opportunities how to style different elements on the web page starting from the font color ending to the background. However, not all fonts for example are available for different devices, so once designing a page, one must also obtain knowledge about these factors affecting the final product. Flexbox is a great way to display information clearly, also adjusting to user's screen size. More often web sites must be adjustable to different screen sizes, which of mobile screen is one of the most important ones currently.

Different screens have different requirements to display the web site well. With @media-query's, answering to these requirements is easier, since they include different memorable settings for different types and sizes of devices. Most important note to take home from these lectures was the fact that smaller screens should be the starting point for any web development, since they are more widely used in general.

I have now created all four html pages index, about, contact and work. Also, the menu button has been created and done with 45 degree rotation.

19.12.2024

I am finished with the project now, and I watched the last videos today. I still have a few things to change on my page before I return it. I found out, that using PNG instead of JPG can slow the loading process down quite a lot so I changed my PNG photos to JPG versions, and thus updated also the work.html & about.html, where most of the photos are located for this project.

Since this is one of my very first coding experiences, I found this course semi challenging. I think it was worth studying this subject, since I may need this skillset later. There still seems to be a lot to study in front-end software development, but I feel like I understood and learned a lot from this course related to front-end development. Unfortunately, I think my website did not come to the best version of itself, also because time limits, but I am certain I already have a good base to build on this matter.

I did start off this course mainly copying what I saw on the lecture video, but eventually had to also use other sources to provide more information or insight to some themes I did not understand in the lecture videos.

16.1.2025

I had not finished my project upload as a video format, which will now be done. I also had to again create a new repository, since I was not able to connect the one I finished before I had to leave to Brazil for work. I did not use SourceTree at all for this project, and I am still not sure where I was supposed to use it. I luckily received some help from my father

and some friends from school and work, because I think I could have not finished this course without them. I am still not sure, why it was so difficult, but I think having so many components made it impossible to put together neatly.

Here is the link for the final project:

https://lilytre.github.io/Coursework2025/index.html