Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Business and Management

Software Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY, FULL-STACK MODULE

**LEARNING DIARY**

**22.6.2021 – NodeJS Module**

I chose the full-stack course as when searching for a summer job, seemed like experience in full-stack development could have been beneficial. I started the course by reading through the course Moodle page, so that I could get a general overview on how to complete the course. At first the module task list seemed a bit confusing, as there were no clear tasks other than those links to different learning materials. From what I understood the coding tasks are inside the videos or other material – I guess I will find that out later.

**23.6.2021 – NodeJS Module**

Today I set up my GitHub repository for the course, there was nothing special as I was already familiar with version control and especially GitHub. I also downloaded VS Code as I did not have that installed on my laptop. I did not add any extensions, as they seemed unnecessary for now.

After that I started getting familiar with the NodeJS-module by watching the start of the introduction video (2019 version). I learned some basic information about Node.js such as that it is a back-end environment used to execute JavaScript on the server, and what it can be used for etc.

At the end I also installed the current version of node (v.14.17.1) even though as stated it might cause some errors later, but I am ready to find alternative ways to solve the errors later.

**6.7.2021 – NodeJS Module**

I continued the first video I had started earlier and started getting more familiar with Node. The first task was to create a json package file, which can be done using “npm init” terminal command. That json package file lists used to describe the project module versions, name, used dependencies and main file among other information. It can be used to install modules (as the needed dependencies are listed in the json) if they are lost are used on a different machine by typing “npm install”.

I also learned about different dependencies, such as uuid and nodemon, which is so called dev dependency. Nodemon is used to save persistence so that the developer does not have to restart the server every time a change of code occurs.

During the video, the instructor introduced some basic modules, such as path, fs, os, url, events and logger provided with some coding examples of how to use them. While following through the coding examples, I tried my best to learn any new syntax used. At first the use of gravis (`) and function arrow (=>) felt weird, but I did some googling and found out when to use them.

When the instructor was about to move to the HTTP module demo, I decided to call it a day and made my first actual code commit to GitHub but before that I decided to install my first VS Code extension called “Prettier” which is used for code formatting.

**7.7.2021 – NodeJS Module**

Today I learned some basic skills on how to deploy a simple http server using Node.js which could be accessed with localhost followed by the port.

I learned how to load different kinds of files to the server, such as html, css or json. However, on my node.js version it did not quite work as expected – the html file contents were on the site as they are in the file. To display the file correctly, I had to use an alternative way to change the “Content-Type” in the header.

I also learned that the “script” part of the package.json file could be altered for example to run it in “dev” mode using nodemon to keep the server running while doing changes to the source code.

In the end of the node.js introduction video when Heroku was introduced I faced some difficulties. As I already had a GitHub repository, I did not want to create a new one for Heroku, so I tried to pair my existing repository with Heroku app. How ever as my node.js module files were not in the root of the repository I could not deploy the app as there was some other files such as this diary which caused errors. Finally, after some time googling, I found a way to run apps from subdirectories using custom Heroku buildpacks.

For that I used this guide: <https://stackoverflow.com/a/53221996>

After that I had finished the NodeJS Module.

**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.