Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

School of Business and Management

Sofware Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY, FRONT END MODULE

**LEARNING DIARY**

**EXAMPLE STYLE 1**

22.5.2019

I started the course by reading through the general course information and by downloading the learning diary template. I had actually decided the two modules I want to complete already when I signed up for the course: frontend and mobile android development. I chose these two, since as a marketing student very interested in ecommerce and websites and mobile apps in general, I felt like they would be the most beneficial for me, and they also seemed like the most interesting ones.

I decided to go in order, so I started with the frontend module. I started the module by first reading through the information and tasks, and then I started to watch the videos provided on the Moodle page. The first video introduced the code editor Visual Studio Code, and I decided to download it. I also installed Node and Git. I used the applications’ own websites and if needed, other instructions found from the web for help while installing them.

25.5.2019

After the installation of the applications, I finished watching the video. I installed the three extensions to VS Code recommended on the video. I also searched the web on how to install Emmet (mentioned on the video) and installed that also as an extension. To get the Emmet to work, however, is turning out to be a struggle for me. Even though I installed it and rebooted the VS Code, nothing seems to happen when I press tab. I searched the web and watched videos, did not get it to work, and decided to move on with the video.

From the overall video, I learned a lot on how the sass actually works and how the responsive design works. I did not quite learn how to use it yet, and I decided I will have to look at it (especially the Emmet part) with my friend later. So, I did get the big picture, but there is still lot to learn about the actual use of the program.

28.5.2019 & 29.5.2019

Today I got some help from a friend and we got the VS Code working properly. I just needed to download the IntelliSense for CSS class names and also add the datatype to the end of the file names. Now when everything was working properly, I watched the video again copying it simultaneously. This time I understood it way better, and I got my website working in the browser which was very cool.

Then I moved to the second video. Watching this video and creating the website really got me into this project. Everything went mostly without any problems. I did mostly just do copying at this time but reading the code through multiple times and seeing what it does to the website helped me to learn the code. I got really excited for the task and started getting different ideas and time flew by really quickly.

A couple parts still stay unclear in the code on what do they actually do, since I could not find any changes in the website. Overall, however, I think understood the idea well even though I would not remember all of the code by heart. So, at the end of these two evenings I have been working on the project, I already have a good-looking front page for my site, my links to my social media sites are working and I have the draft of my menu.

30.5.2019

I started the day by changing my website design a little. I wanted it to differ from the example and to make it more me. For this, I started watching the Parallax website video. I centered the texts and icons and also changed the fonts and colors of the site. I also started adding the Parallax website features to my code, but then later decided to make the basic tasks first and then maybe later look at that.

In the third video the navigation building was started. I made the button for navigation, and as in the video, I made it turn into an X when pressed (and the menu will open). I also wanted it to change in color when pressed, so I inserted that into the code. The JavaScript part was rather challenging, and I got some errors due to incorrectly spelled names and some code that was left in from the Parallax video. I would have wanted my menu button to be in the right side of the site, but I did not find the reason why it only goes to the left side. After looking at it for a while and trying to Google the reason without any success, I decided to leave it.

I also watched the fourth video. When I was developing my website, all of a sudden, my menu button disappeared. It took me a long time to figure out why but examining the site in a browser with its source code helped me to find out why. The placement of the button was off and by correcting it I also found how to change its location to the right side. However, I decided to leave it on the left. Today, I learned a lot about programming. I had some problems, but I was able to figure them out independently, which was really cool and rewarding. What remained unclear, was how to get the picture in the menu. I only got the border for the photo, but the photo never showed so I decided to try and put it somewhere else.

I feel like today I already knew so much that I was able to make the site look more like me. I have followed the videos very much, but I have also known how to do things a little differently and not only copy what is being done on the video. This has been really exciting. Especially utilizing the hover makes the site instantly so much more professional and better looking and learning that was very nice.

Centering the text for one sized screen and not for another was also a challenge, since I wanted to do it different from the video. Yet again, solving this problem by trial and error was very satisfying and exciting. What was frustrating today, was not to get the image to work and also playing with the responsiveness, the mobile version would not work as it did on the video, and thus it is not as good in my site.

31.5.2019

Today I started creating the other sites: about me, experience and contact me. This was quite a lot of work, but it already feels easier and I am more comfortable with the programming and can solve most of the problems I face. I learned how to use the CSS Grid which seems like a very useful tool. I also learned more about making the site responsive for different devices, even though getting the mobile version to work perfectly is still an issue. I have also noticed that since I have made some different styling decisions from the video, some of the things shown do not work for my work the same way. Thus, I had trouble with setting a background color, and actually in any way editing the grids as a whole. I still do not know why it will not work as it does on the video, but I think I will get back to it later.

There is also a weird problem with my home-page; If I leave it to go to another page and try to return, it does not work as it should. Transitions between other sites however work, so that is another thing I am going to figure out later. All in all, today I learned yet again to understand the platform and the code better, and I was able to do things independently without the video or the internet.

And after writing this I finished watching the video six where the problem with returning to the home page was solved, so one problem less!