



Kislap: Documenting the Academic Vaporwave Feed

Act I: The Birth of an Aesthetic (The Foundation)

```
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>Kislap - Main Feed <img alt="pink dot icon" style="vertical-align: middle;"></title>

  <link rel="preconnect" href="https://fonts.googleapis.com">
  <link rel="preconnect" href="https://fonts.gstatic.com" crossorigin>
  <link href="https://fonts.googleapis.com/css2?family=Poppins:wght@400;500;600;700;800;900&ampampdisplay=swap" rel="stylesheet">

  <link rel="stylesheet" href="src/css/style.css">
</head>
```

Our journey began not with a sleek framework, but with a philosophy: **Simplicity**. The goal was to build a social feed, one centered on academic pursuits and intellectual sparks. It needed a name that captured this essence.

The choice was **Kislap**.

Kislap ✨

In the Filipino language, "**Kislap**" means a sparkle, a flicker, or a gleam. It was chosen as the perfect metaphor for the site's purpose: to be a place where users share **fleeting moments of brilliance**—the "spark" of a new research idea, the "flicker" of insight gained from a difficult reading, or the "gleam" of a successfully completed project. It's about celebrating those small, bright moments of learning and discovery.

The core aesthetic was established quickly: Academic Vaporwave. A foundation of deep, near-black backgrounds (`--kislap-bg-dark: #121212`), contrasted sharply with vibrant, synthwave-inspired accents of electric blue and magenta. The interface was heavy, purposeful, and clean.

But a social feed needs content. And in its initial state, **Kislap** was lying to its users.

Act II: The Ghost in the Machine (The Placeholder Problem)

The posts themselves were structurally sound, but where media should have appeared, there were only empty placeholders—ghosts of images and videos yet to be born. The code was built to handle content, but it wasn't yet showing the **real content**.

This placeholder approach required redundant styling in the `style.css`—clunky blocks of code dedicated solely to making these empty `div` tags *look* like videos or images. This was code debt that needed immediate atomization.

The Media Surgery

The development moved into a surgical phase. In the `index.html`, every placeholder block was targeted and systematically excised.

The simulated was replaced with the native:

- The placeholder `div` became the **HTML `` tag**.
- The video block became the **HTML `<video>` tag with `controls` enabled**.

This single, focused action in the HTML was the turning point. Kislap could now ingest and render real media, provided the assets were correctly placed in the `assets/img/` directory.

Act III: The Polish and The Perfection (CSS Refinement)

The media was loading, but it was raw. It needed to be styled, framed, and polished to integrate into the dark, sleek environment.

The developer turned to the `style.css` file for the final aesthetic polish.

First: The obsolete placeholder styling was purged, cleaning up the stylesheet.

Second: A universal media class, `.post-media-content`, was introduced. This was the master stroke of consistency. Whether the media was a photo or a video, it inherited:

- **Responsiveness:** `width: 100%`
- **Aesthetic Framing:** A clean `border-radius: 10px` and a subtle shadow (`box-shadow: 0 4px 10px rgba(0, 0, 0, 0.5)`) to lift the media off the card.
- **Interactivity:** A kinetic hover effect (`transform: scale(1.005)`) was added, ensuring the media gives a gentle "sparkle" when the user engages with it.

Conclusion: A Framework of Purity

The Kislap prototype is now complete in its static presentation. It stands as a testament to the power of pure code—achieving a complex, modern aesthetic without the weight of any external framework. The journey, from philosophical conception to the final frame of a playable video, was one of focused development, where every line of code was deliberate, and the **brainrot of redundancy was successfully atomized**.