Lesson 0: The PlebDevs Backend Course

What this course is about, what will we be learning, how to get the most out of the material and resources.
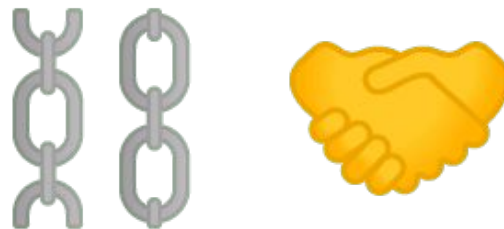
Who am I?

I'm Austin I go by @bitcoinplebdev online

I'm a mostly self taught developer though I went through a fullstack bootcamp as well as the Base58 Transactions bootcamp

I work on Bitcoin/Lightning/Nostr/FOSS

I work out of PlebLab in Austin, Texas, and am involved in the Bitcoin/Lightning dev scene here

I helped create the PlebDevs Lightning course and I run the PlebDevs community

What is PlebDevs?

I coined the term plebdev about 2 years ago as a framing to help me talk about my developer journey in Bitcoin.

- A plebdev is a Bitcoin pleb turned dev
- Plebdevs are on the learning path.
- A plebdev might be someone who's writing their first code or someone whose been coding for two years and is just working on getting to the next level
- Plebdevs is focused mainly on App development vs protocol development (though the door to protocol dev is always open!)
- Plebdevs embrace the label of n00b, being a new developer is 1000x better than being on the sidelines
- Bitcoin/Lightning/Nostr needs more Plebdevs!

My journey

The insights I bring to this course

-   Lowering the barrier to entry

-   Project based learning

-   Actionable information

-   Breakdown nearly every concept / term

-   Explain / comment nearly every line of code

-   Leveling up together

-   Making myself available for 1:1 help (through [discord](#))

-   Expect high agency students

What we learned in the first course

PlebDev Course I: Building a Lightning App

Learn Lightning Development in 2022! Build lightning apps, projects using HTML, CSS, Javascript, LNbits, React & more!

Highest rated **4.9 ★★★★★** (96 ratings)   415 students

Created by Pleb Lab, Austin James Kelsay

⚙ Last updated 8/2023   🌐 English   ▭ English [CC]

Preview this course

$24.99

Add to cart

Buy now

30-Day Money-Back Guarantee

What you'll learn

- ✓ Basic intro course to developing Lightning Apps
- ✓ Learning the fundamentals of CSS into digestible, easy to understand pieces.
- ✓ Learn how to use LNbits, a lightning wallet and account system.
- ✓ Learn the fundamentals of building a React app.

- ✓ Learning HTML basics an important first step in your web development journey.
- ✓ Learn how to use JavaScript — a powerful and flexible programming language for adding website interactivity.
- ✓ Learn how to setup and create your own development environment.
- ✓ Learn how to build your own custodial lightning wallet.

This course includes:

- ▷ 6.5 hours on-demand video
- ⤓ 3 downloadable resources
- ▯ Access on mobile and TV
- ∞ Full lifetime access
- cc Closed captions
- AD Audio description in existing audio

What we built for the first course

pleb wallet

Send   **Receive**

Balance

0.777 sats

Price

$29231.42

Transactions

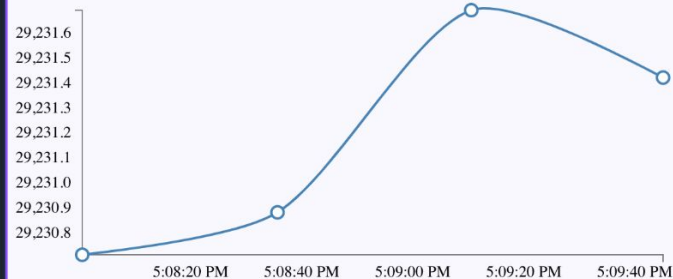Sent with lnbc100n1pj98hxusp5f7ecfy...

-10 sats

5/4/2023

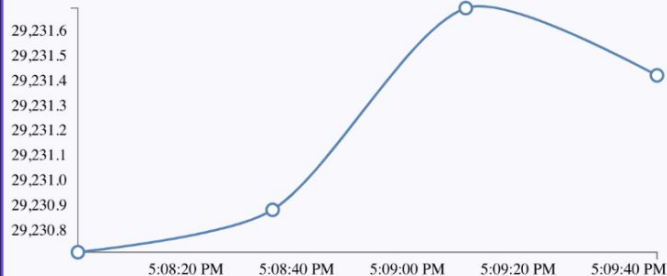Received from lnbc100n1pjyuz8psp5t8lrak...

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4/30/2023

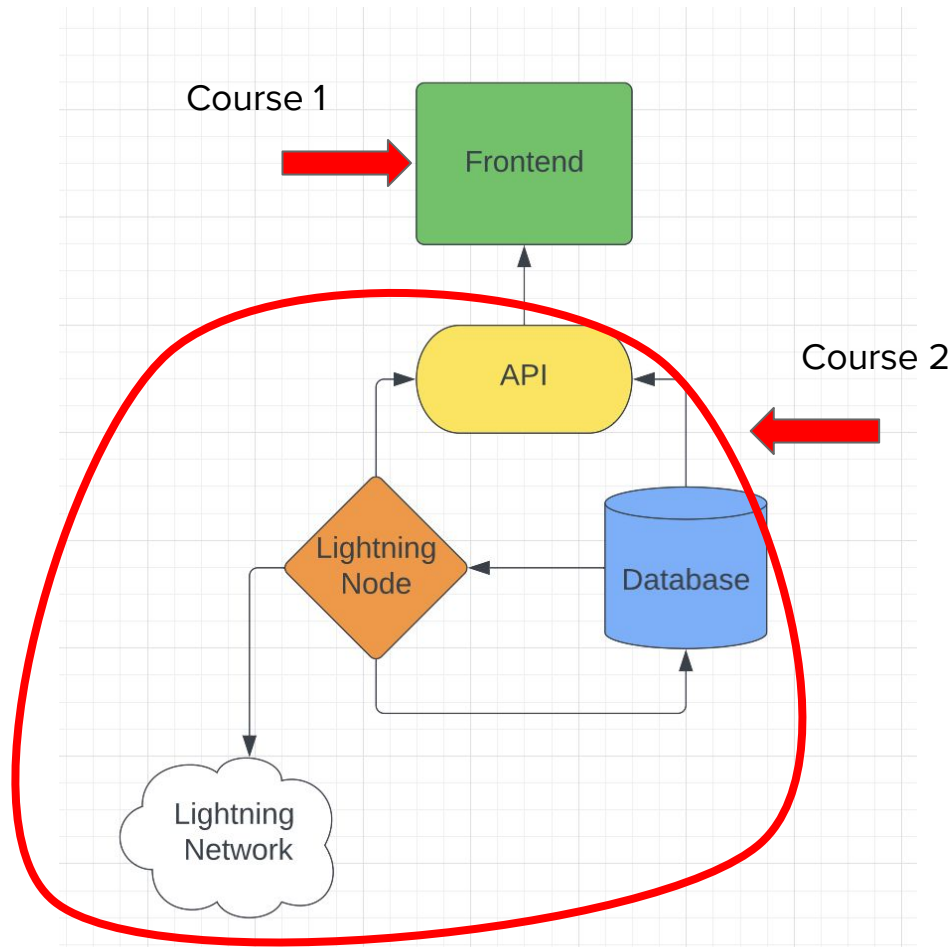Sent with lnbc110n1pjphrgksp5hw4y5f...

What we will build in this course

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A backend for pleb-wallet

- An HTTP server with NodeJS/Express
- An API for our server with Express
- A database with SQLite and Postgres
- Hosting an LND Lightning node with Voltage
- A connection to our Lightning node using LND-GRPC

Course 1

Frontend

Course 2

API

Lightning Node

Database

Lightning Network

What will we be learning in this course?

- NodeJS basics

- Building a basic server with NodeJS & Express

- Building a REST API with NodeJS & Express

- User Authentication & Authorization with JSONWebTokens

- Lightning Network basics

- Setting up a local regtest Lightning Network environment with Polar

- Interacting with LND to create and pay invoices

- Database fundamentals

- Creating a local database with NodeJS Knex and SQLite

- Deploying a Postgres production database with Heroku

- Deploying a hosted LND node with Voltage

What you will need for this course

- A computer! (Linux or Mac is best)

- Very basic command line skills

- Basic Git / Github skills

- Basic JavaScript experience

- Visual Studio Code (or equivalent IDE) working on your local machine

How to get the most out of this course

- Go lesson by lesson

- Don't rush!

- Take the time to understand each line of code

- Be humbled!!!

- Check out the resources at the end of each lesson

- Refer back to the slides for each lesson when you need to review

- Ask me for help on the [PlebDevs discord](#)!

- Stack commits (push to Github often!)

- Share your journey and the progress you're making!