Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto

FiTech

Software Development Skills Front-End, Online course

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LEARNING DIARY, CT70A9110 MODULE

Date : 8.2.2024

Activity : Course start, setup and first two video lectures

Learning outcome: I had not heard about Sass before, it will definitely change how I work with CSS in the future

Date : 10.2.2024

Activity : Video lectures 3 and 4

Learning outcome: Learned to properly do nesting with HTML and Sass. Transformations and responsive site design using CSS or Sass was also something new to me.

Date: 11.2.2024

Activity: Video lecture 5

Learning outcome: Learned to use CSS grid

Date: 13.2.2024

Activity: Final two video lectures

Learning outcome: Learned more about CSS and Flexbox

**LEARNING DIARY**

8.2.2024  
  
First, I set up my development environment for the course, which was a quick task of just checking my used plugins in Neovim, and starting a new local repository for the course. After that, I made an Atlassian account to use BitBucket, and started this very diary. After these tasks, I studied the first two lecture videos.

The first lecture was pretty simple, I learned that Sass is a thing. Will definitely use it in future projects, before I have not enjoyed using pure CSS too much, so this can be quite a game changer for me.

The second lesson was a bit more challenging, but at the same time more interesting. One major problem with the lesson is its age, so to get the same icons working I had to do some digging around. Also, the node-sass used in the lessons is pretty much deprecated, but the pure JavaScript implementation Sass-package (also available on npm) gets the same job done. I completed the home page HTML and main Sass, committed my work, and began looking forward to lesson number three.

10.2.2024

Watched lectures 3 and 4 back to back. Lecture 3 presented me with many concepts I had not used before, like building pure CSS/Sass menu button with minimal JavaScript and CSS transitions, gave me some new ideas that I need to try out in other projects. Also wrote the JavaScript code used in the class project in a bit more compact way, I’m not sure if this was not possible when the lessons were released.

Between the two lessons, I fixed some bugs I had managed to leave in my class project. Hunting the one misplaced closing HTML-tag that messes up the entire DOM is always a pleasure.

Lesson 4 centered around the menu overlay. The things I learned was the smart usage of nesting and Sass mixins. Getting the mixins to work was not as easy as in the video, due to the different Sass package I personally use. With the power of trial and error, I managed to get the\_mobile.scss file to compile correctly. The class project does not import the \_mobile.scss separately as it uses the node-sass which watches the entire folder; the Sass package I have in use watches only the main.scss, so the correct imports are important.

11.2.2024

Took the time to complete lecture 5 today. The biggest gripe that I usually have with building front-end stuff is how the different elements are arranged nicely and how this arrangement can be made responsive. Previously, I never did it using pure CSS, and opted to use something like React or Angular to make it seem easier for me. However, after today’s lecture I realized that my problem was not with the tools, it had more to do with the fact that I didn’t know how to properly use CSS. The CSS’s grid system and is way more powerful than I had thought. A shame I had not picked them up earlier.

After the lecture, I spent around an hour with Bitbucket’s ridiculous SSH authentication problems. Managed to finally get my local repo pushed to remote, makes it easier to present the course work by quite a lot.