

Lappeenrannan teknillinen yliopisto
School of Business and Management

Software Development Skills

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LEARNING DIARY, FRONT-END MODULE

LEARNING DIARY

Set up

28.2.2021

I started the course by reading the given information and watching the first task video. I followed the tutorial and started my assignment project. I did, however, diverge from the instructions a little. Since I thought it would be a good idea, I started by creating a repository to git which I then cloned to Visual Studio Code. I decided to use this software as I have used it for coding before. I think that cloning the repository and pushing my progress was a smart thing to do. It makes it easier to follow my progress later. Of course, this might change if the tutorial goes on and heavily leans on not pushing to git yet. This is the first time that I am setting up my project by myself without a skeleton project or Create-React-app. It is nice to see how to do it all by myself.

Home page

17.3.2021

I started with the second video. It was amazing how pretty the page could be made with only a little Css. Makes me regret the massive Css-loads that I have created while ending up with an uglier layout. A new thing for me was the layering of the elements with z-indexes, it seems really handy. Another thing I had never tried before was hovering actions and transitions. Scss nesting was wonderful to use, I have hoped for something similar while making regular Css in the past. While following the tutorial, came across an interesting problem. Font Awesome, that is used in the project, has changed the way you can use their icons. To use it I needed to give my email address, and the code to be pasted looked a little different from the tutorial. However, it worked, and the icon names have stayed the same, so it did not affect the project at all. All in all, the tutorial has been very informative and easy to follow. I love how everything from even size measurements is explained so I do not have to wonder about the new things that I encounter while following the video.

Menu button design

18.3.2021

I followed the third video. After messing with React for a long time I was surprised how easy it was to set new classes to HTML elements. It might be in React too, but I have not found this functionality yet. The written JavaScript was easy to understand and again the tutorial was easy to keep up with. I really liked the way the button animations were created with Css. It was simple but so nice looking. I am also happy with how the Scss has been divided into multiple files.

Responsive layout

18.3.2021

The fourth tutorial resulted in a more responsive layout. This is the first time that I have been able to get my media queries to work on Css which was nice. It was not as hard as I thought it would be. I was positively surprised how little code was needed to change the layout to make it fit mobile screens better. The amount of Css is increasing but it is still manageable because of the usage of multiple Scss files.

About page

18.3.2021

I created the about page of the project by following the fifth tutorial. The HTML part was already familiar from the previous videos. The grid layout was explained well. However, I was wondering if the other screen sizes should get special layout models too. Right now, the screen size is still pretty small when the layout changes to the larger version. This is something that should maybe be changed while finalizing the project. Also, at full computer screen size the page looks kind of funny. This might change when the sample text is changed to something more meaningful.

Work and contact me pages

19.3.2021

By following the sixth video I made two new responsive pages to the project. HTML was basically the same from previous tutorials but some new Scss was introduced. Extending button styles was really handy as it prevents me from writing the same styling for similar elements with little appearance differences. I have struggled with this with normal Css a couple of times. Again, media queries were easy to use and made a big difference in the Work page. It makes the layout look well planned and much better on smaller screens. Using flex box was a nice new feature as it did not need media queries to make the layout responsive. At the very last moment a problem that I have been concerned about was tackled. I had noticed that clicking the home page button from the navigation menu was not working. This was because there was a wrong destination written in the HTML. The fix was small and I would have been able to do it after some investigating but it was nice to see that I was not the only one having the issue.

Deploying to Web

19.3.2021

This video was the least helpful of the tutorials. GitHub Pages has changed the way it operates, and I could not get my web site up using the video. To get the project running I had to clone the project to a repository that fit the GH Page requirements, added a dummy HTML file that redirects to my real index.html file, had to install node-sass to the new repository and create the package.json file again because it matched the old repository. This is something that I did not think would be waiting for me at the end of such amazing tutorials. But the site is now running at <https://susannajarventausta.github.io/dist/index.html>.

After the deployment I had a hard time figuring out how to make the instructions on how to run the project. This was not explained in the tutorial as it only used VS Code extension LiveServer for running the project. I decided to use Parcel to get the project running with command “npm start”. This did not last too long as Parcel ended up messing my files and the file names up completely. It just happens that Parcel uses “dist” as its build folder which is the same folder the tutorial uses for storing all the code. This was fixable but I would have really hoped that these two things would have been mentioned the course website. If there was a guideline to start with a project named username.github.io and a note that the last

video will not help us deploy or bundle the website, it would save the students some time figuring things out.

On my own

22.3.2021

After the demos I decided to make the project a website for my dog. I have been busy with finding a summer job and programming coding tasks for recruiters and I wanted to do something and not serious with this project. It still very much follows the project I made with the tutorials, but I have added pictures, text content and personalized the website to my liking.