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Free online course - C# and .NET Core introduction

.NET DEVELOPMENT, C#, LIFE AS A CODER, TECH TALK



Allan Thraen | 1 Years Ago | PDF |



The best way to learn coding - and in particular *c#* and *.NET Core* - is to code. CodeArt is proud to make all the teaching materials to a newly created course online and freely available for self-study.

I have in the past written about the *HackYourFuture* coding school in Copenhagen. It's a wonderful place, where passionate volunteer developers with a lot of industry experience, share their knowledge with just as passionate students that are typically immigrants, refugees or asylum seekers in Denmark. For the last year and a half I have been involved as a mentor with them arranging various events - and this february/march I held a 5 week master class for alumni students introducing them to *.NET Core*, *Object Oriented Programming* and *c#*. The students had completed the *HYF* curriculum program which is very focused on *Javascript/HTML/CSS/React/Node* - so the course is assuming similar background knowledge, but at the same time trying to introduce the basics of *Object Oriented Programming* as well as the *.NET* platform.

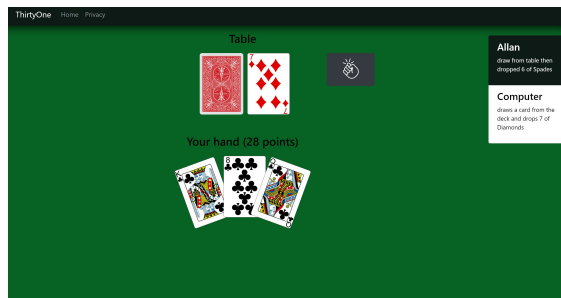
The Game

Obviously, it's hard to decide how to structure a course that in such a short time can give a good allround introduction. The approach we took here was to let the students do a lot of coding - and coding on 1 single project throughout the course.

The project was a basic, simple card game - the game of *Thirty-One*. First, they would create the basic game logic and a text based version as a *Console Application*, then split out logic to a class library and prepare it for web use. Then, create an *ASP.NET Core* Web version using *MVC* and *Razor*, based on the same class library - and finally publish it to their own *Azure Web App Service*, with game state maintained in *Azure Storage*.

All along the way, the steps are explained, exercises go into details, and a video will introduce the concepts needed to be understood.

Here is a screenshot of a solution, one of the students (*Svetlana Cecca*) ended up with:



Teaching materials

It was an in-person class, held 4 out of 5 times on location in *Microsoft Denmark's* office (*MSFT* were kind enough to sponsor both food and facilities). The 5th time had to be moved online due to the *Corona* pandemic. In the nature of *HackYourFuture* we made sure to put all teaching materials on *GitHub* so students that missed a class could still follow along. This includes both **curriculum**, **exercises**, **videos** and **sample solutions**. And now, it's available and free to use for anyone who wants to improve their skills and learn a new platform and way of coding.

All the materials are available here:

<https://github.com/AThraen/HackYourFuture.NETMasterClass>

You can use either a Mac or a windows based PC to follow along, but the course assumes you have Visual Studio Community installed and .NET Core 3.1.
If you enjoy it and find it useful, please **leave a comment below** and tell me about your experience! If you spot an error, drop me a mail or even better, submit a PR in Github.

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