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AUArts x LHL Frequently Asked Questions

About Lighthouse Labs

What is Lighthouse Labs?

Lighthouse Labs is an organization purposed to take you from coding newbie/hobbyist to professional developer and be the launchpad for your career.

Based out of Canada's most dynamic tech hubs, you will be immersed into full-stack web through hands-on experience. With the support of a brilliant team of instructors and mentors who view coding as the ultimate craft, you'll join the ranks of over 500 developers in the Lighthouse Labs community.

Lighthouse Labs' industry driven curriculum and rigorous education standards have created the ultimate result for graduates: over 95% employment rate. Our collaborative courses with Lighthouse Labs are meant to be an introduction, but you can take these skills further having acquired a basic knowledge of coding, web, and data, which are key skills for:

- Graphic and Web Designers
- Experience Designers
- Entrepreneurs
- Free-lancers
- Digital artists
- UX designers
- Marketing/art directors

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How do coding bootcamps compare to traditional education, like a Design or Computer Science degree?

The bootcamp educational model is built very differently from the ones you experienced in high school and/or university. Lighthouse Labs practices a flipped, immersive model of education that puts the emphasis on the development of practical skills through building real-world applications using an incremental and cumulative collection of tools and best practices.

You can expect to introduce yourself to new concepts through readings and exercises, getting your knowledge bolstered and backfilled with lectures throughout the workshops.

It is our core belief that 80% of the learning should be done on the job and we have tailored every part of our program around it. Our curriculum is constantly interrupted by a community of passionate developers based off feedback from employers, students, alumni, and industry trends. We will not teach you everything about software development (that takes years of practice), but we will give you the foundation so you can continue learning in your new career as a developer as quickly as possible.

What's the difference between the Intro to Web Development and Intro to Front-End with JavaScript course?

Think about it this way, the Intro to Web Development course covers the breadth of Web Development including both front-end and back-end, while the Intro to Front-End with JavaScript course deals solely in front-end development in greater depth. If you want to get a good understanding of how teams web technologies work and gain a better way to communicate with developers, then take the Intro to Web Development Course. However, if you want to learn more front-end skills like learning how to style websites and gain a more practical skillset, then the Intro to Front-End with JavaScript course should be your pick.

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There is no right or wrong choice but they provide different outcomes based on what you are looking to gain out of the course.

I already have a technical background. Will Lighthouse Labs be challenging enough for me?

Absolutely! Many Lighthouse Labs students come from technical backgrounds, including people with Computer Science and Engineering degrees, and even people who currently work as developers. Our curriculum is designed with stretch goals to challenge students of all levels. You will also be surrounded by lots of seasoned developers who will be pushing you out of your comfort zone, so trust us that there will plenty of challenge – our unofficial motto is “get comfortable being uncomfortable”.

While the program is geared towards people of all coding levels, it takes dedication, grit and perseverance to handle a program of this pace and intensity. Our goal is to push everyone to their maximum learning experience in a 6-week period, and advanced students who have come to Lighthouse Labs have grown exponentially in the small, intense time frame.

Technology Requirements

What kind of laptop or desktop will I need?

While our classes are running online due to the pandemic, students can also use a desktop at home.
We strongly encourage you to bring either a MacBook Pro or MacBook Air, running the most current version of Mac OS X. However, PC laptops can be used if they are running a recently installed version of Linux. Netbooks are a no-go.

In any case, laptops should be no more than 3 years old with a minimum of 4GB of RAM. We

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recommend a screen size that is greater than 13 inches. Here is a nice table to help you choose:

	Intro Web	**Intro iOS**
Operating System	Ideal: OS X, Linux Acceptable: any OS that can run Google Chrome including Windows 10	Required: OS X No good: Linux, Windows
RAM	2GB or greater	Ideal: >= 8GB Acceptable: 4-8GB No good: < 4GB
Age	Ideal: < 3 years old Acceptable: 3-5 years old No good: > 5 years old	Ideal: < 3 years old Acceptable: 3-5 years old No good: > 5 years old
Screen Size	Ideal: 15 inches Acceptable: 11-13 inches No good: < 11 inches	Ideal: 15 inches Acceptable: 11-13 inches No good: < 11 inches