

LECTURE 36

USING FLASK

MCS 275 Spring 2021

Emily Dumas

LECTURE 36: USING FLASK

Course bulletins:

- Please install **Flask**, e.g. with

```
python3 -m pip install Flask
```

in preparation for using it in upcoming assignments.

- Project 4 description likely to be posted tonight.

TODAY'S GOAL

Build the database and Flask routes for our web apps.

Get a minimal working version of at least one of them running.

CHAT APP TODO

- ✓ HTML mockup
- ✓ Stylesheet
- ✓ (Learn a bit about Flask)
- Database schema & test data
- Python code to generate message view HTML from a database query
- Add form to post a message to HTML
- Create route for new message submission

VOTE APP TODO

Everything from previous list and:

- Second view (chrono vs score)
- Routes for the + and - buttons

CHAT DB SCHEMA

Table **messages** has columns:

- **id** - integer uniquely identifying a message
- **sender** - name of the sender
- **content** - message content
- **ts** - float giving time message received by server in seconds since unix epoch (0:00 Jan 1 1970 UTC)

GENERATING CHAT FEED

- SELECT query retrieves messages
- Convert each row to a `<div>` using string formatting.
- Add static parts of the HTML page (header and footer).
- When a Flask route returns a string, Flask assumes it is HTML and delivers it as the response (with HTTP response code 200, and adding necessary headers).

REFERENCES

- [jsfiddle](#) - Write and test HTML+CSS quickly in browser
- [HTML tutorial from w3schools](#)
- [CSS tutorial from w3schools](#)
- [The Flask tutorial](#)

REVISION HISTORY

- 2021-04-13 Move unused slides forward to Lecture 37
- 2021-04-12 Initial publication

