

# Blog Coursework Report

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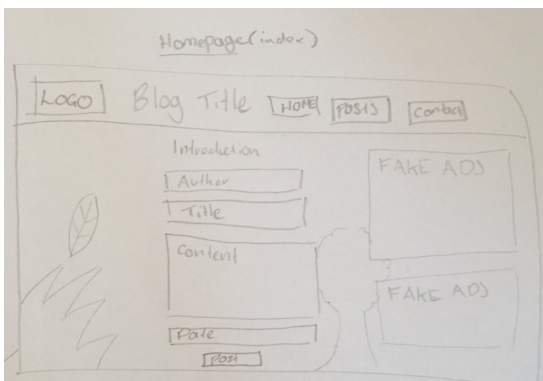
## 1 Introduction

The aim of this Coursework was to design and implement a blog website that allowed users to create a blog post and be able to edit or delete any created content at any point and save created blog posts to a database. For this Coursework I have used HTML, CSS, Node.js and Express. For the Database element I will be using Realm. The theme I have gone with for the Blog is centered around Earth and is designed to support a single user which would be myself. I believe this was for the best as it allowed me to focus on a subject I was interested in and that it would make for a better design. I have taken into account the feedback from Coursework 1 and it has really pushed me to improve my design as it was quite basic in the work prior. I have attempted to make my site look professional and have added a logo in the nav bar that can also be used to return to the homepage like many designs such as google and so forth.

## 2 Software Design

Design:

Before I started to actually begin the coding of the Website I decided to draw up a basic layout on paper to get a feel for what I would be designing after looking at sites like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter to get a feel for a layout.



HTML:

For the overall layout of my website I kept it fairly simple with only a small number of items on screen at any one time to keep my site from becoming cluttered. I have ensured that the pages make use of all available space so to not be condensed into a small section of the users screen. I have made use of a logo that acts as a link to the homepage once clicked.

CSS:

I have based most of my design off of Facebook where all navigation is kept in one area and any posts that are to be made are in the main body. I have added a nature themed leaves background to go with the earth themed nature of the blog and have complimented this with a wood grain nav bar which I feel keeps the site quite clean and overall appealing to the eye. The text input areas I have included a simple background to avoid blank white spaces but kept it simple enough so that text is still able to be viewed with ease. I have kept the page centered to ensure that the site is straightforward and easy to navigate.

JS:

For the Javascript I would like to have gone with a password protected site which wouldve added a simple but effective security feature. I would implement this using simple Javascript queries so that if the text input matched that of the string in the javascript file it would permit you to access the site. However this could prove quite weak and could be improved by the ability for users to change passwords at their given time or even track when the user has been active on the site.

Serverside:

For the serverside of the blog I would use node.js to uphold the blog.

## 3 Implementation

The Implementation of the site is fairly straightforward with a text area for user input of blog posts and the ability to add the post once the user is satisfied. The posts once made would be able to be updated and deleted at the users wish. I have spent a large amount of time ensuring that the design of the site had an overall pleasant feel.

## 4 Critical Evaluation

Overall, I believe that the site while overall may look pleasing lacks function. I have struggled very much with the serverside elements of this task and require further practice. Ideally I would've like to have the user to be able to post, edit and delete posts and have a secure site and further improvements to allow multiple users to make posts and comment with an admin to remove and inappropriate content. While I spent a large amount of time researching realm as a large amount

of tutorials and help was available online I was not able to implement any such database to store my blog posts.

## 5 Personal Evaluation

After attempting this Coursework I feel very much disappointed in my progress and abilities. I require further practice and revision and am very much upset with myself for wasting the time and resources of Napier Staff after being granted a generous extension. I did seek assistance with the coursework as I have struggled with Implementation and was unable to find a suitable tutor within the time and reasonable cost. I believe that I spent too much time focusing on the design and leaving it too late to work on functionality which should have been my main focus.

## References

-Realm, "Building a blog with node.js and express,"2018. -Stack Overflow -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Br4vMpArpV0> -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hb26tQPmPI4>