# **Rendering Views**

## **Objectives:**

* Understand what templates are in Flask
* Know where to save HTML files for a Flask application

In the last assignment, we just returned simple strings. But we spent all that time in Web Fundamentals learning HTML--isn't that really what we want to return? You bet. We just need a place to save them so that our Flask server file knows where to find them. In Flask, we must create a directory alongside our **server.py** file called **templates** (exactly this word, plural). Inside the templates directory, we'll add our HTML files. Going back to our hello\_flask project:

#### **/hello\_flask/templates/index.html**

<h1>Hello Flask!</h1>

Then in our code, we refer to our HTML files like so:

#### **/hello\_flask/server.py**

from flask import Flask, render\_template # added render\_template!app = Flask(\_\_name\_\_) @app.route('/') *def* hello\_world(): # Instead of returning a string, # we'll return the result of the render\_template method, passing in the name of our HTML file return render\_template('index.html') if \_\_name\_\_=="\_\_main\_\_": app.run(debug=True)

note the addition of render\_template -- that allows us to return the rendered HTML that we created above. Now when we run our **server.py** file and go to localhost:5000/, we'll see our template!

Here you can see that we are handling the **root route**, or '/', route with the hello\_world function which renders the index.html template. Here the HTTP verb is "GET".