



**Kazakh-British Technical University**

**Assignment 3**

Web Application Development

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## **INTRODUCTION**

In this lab assignment I developed basic blog application using the Django framework. Project includes creating, configuring models, views, templates and forms to manage blog posts. I also added styling with CSS and also added image uploads for posts. Throughout this work I explored using class-based views, template inheritance and handling static and media files. This project allows users to create, edit and view posts, and also applying basic design elements to improve the user interface.

## 1. Django Models

### Exercise 1: Creating a Basic Model

```
(venv) (base) zajsan@Air-Zhaisan-2 myproj % pip install django
Requirement already satisfied: django in /Users/zajsan/Desktop/WORK/KBTU/MASTER/3semester/web-app-dev/web-dev/venv/lib/python3.9/site-packages (4.2.16)
Requirement already satisfied: asgiref<4,>=3.6.0 in /Users/zajsan/Desktop/WORK/KBTU/MASTER/3semester/web-app-dev/web-dev/venv/lib/python3.9/site-packages (from django) (3.8.1)
Requirement already satisfied: sqlparse>=0.3.1 in /Users/zajsan/Desktop/WORK/KBTU/MASTER/3semester/web-app-dev/web-dev/venv/lib/python3.9/site-packages (from django) (0.5.1)
Requirement already satisfied: typing-extensions>=4 in /Users/zajsan/Desktop/WORK/KBTU/MASTER/3semester/web-app-dev/web-dev/venv/lib/python3.9/site-packages (from asgiref<4,>=3.6.0->django) (4.12.2)

[notice] A new release of pip is available: 24.2 -> 24.3.1
[notice] To update, run: pip install --upgrade pip
```

Figure 1.1: Installing Django

In figure 1.1 I make sure that Django is installed using *'pip install django'* command.

```
myproj
├── __init__.py
├── asgi.py
├── settings.py
├── urls.py
└── wsgi.py
```

Figure 1.2: Creating Django project

Next, I created Django project using *'django-admin startproject myproj'* command.

```
blog
├── migrations
├── __init__.py
├── admin.py
├── apps.py
├── models.py
├── tests.py
└── views.py
```

Figure 1.3: Creating app inside project

After I created app called 'blog' in project folder.

```
main.py x settings.py x models.py x admin.py x
1 from django.db import models
2 from django.utils import timezone
3
4 class Post(models.Model):
5     title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
6     content = models.TextField()
7     author = models.CharField(max_length=100)
8     published_date = models.DateTimeField(default=timezone.now)
9
10 def __str__(self):
11     return self.title
12
```

Figure 1.4: Models

Inside '*blog/models.py*' I created models for posts with the fields:

- Title: post title, string with 200 characters long.
- Content: post content, field for storing text.
- Author: author name, string with 100 characters long.
- Published\_date: post publication date and time, current date and time by default.

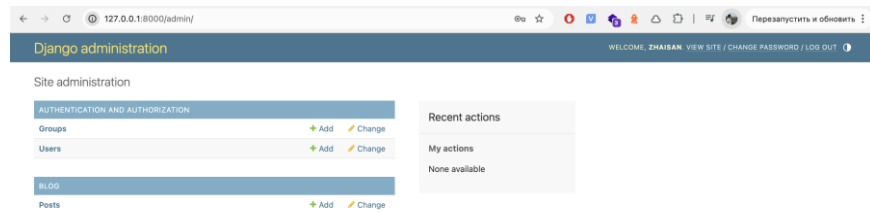


Figure 1.5: Admin panel

In admin panel figure 1.5 I made sure that our models are created.



Figure 1.6: SQLite3

By the way, for this project I use SQLite3. I use the default database which is quite enough to cover all our lab work needs.

## Exercise 2: Model Relationships



Figure 1.7: Category model

In figure 1.7 you see that I included Category model with many-to-many relationship.

```

10 class Post(models.Model):
11     title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
12     content = models.TextField()
13     author = models.CharField(max_length=100)
14     published_date = models.DateTimeField(default=timezone.now)
15     categories = models.ManyToManyField(Category, related_name='posts')
16
17     def __str__(self):
18         return self.title

```

Figure 1.8: Category field

Here I added ‘*categories*’ field to model ‘*Post*’ and I define it as `ManyToManyField` indicating to model ‘*Category*’.

```

20 class Comment(models.Model):
21     post = models.ForeignKey(Post, on_delete=models.CASCADE, related_name='comments')
22     author = models.CharField(max_length=100)
23     content = models.TextField()
24     created_at = models.DateTimeField(auto_now_add=True)
25
26     def __str__(self):
27         return f'Comment by {self.author} on {self.post}'
28

```

Figure 1.9: Comment model

In this figure 1.9 I added ‘*Comment*’ model with oneToMany relationship to ‘*Post*’. One post can have many comments, but each comment can be related to only one post. ‘`on_delete=models.CASCADE`’ means that if the post is deleted, the all comments which are related to the post also will be deleted.

### Exercise 3: Custom Manager

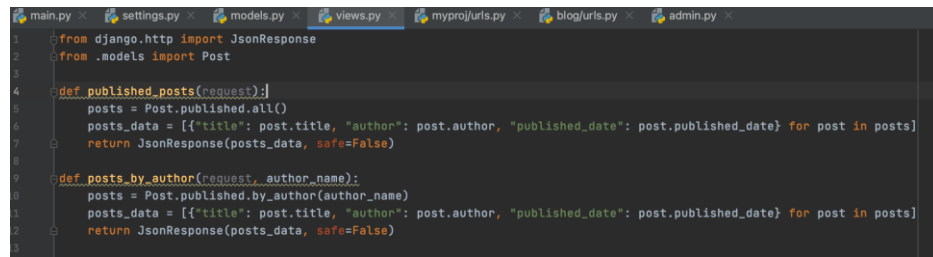
```

1 from django.db import models
2 from django.utils import timezone
3
4 class PublishedManager(models.Manager):
5     def get_queryset(self):
6         return super().get_queryset().filter(published_date__lte=timezone.now())
7
8     def by_author(self, author_name):
9         return self.get_queryset().filter(author=author_name)
10
11 class Category(models.Model):
12     name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
13
14     def __str__(self):
15         return self.name
16
17 class Post(models.Model):
18     title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
19     content = models.TextField()
20     author = models.CharField(max_length=100)
21     published_date = models.DateTimeField(default=timezone.now)
22     categories = models.ManyToManyField('Category', related_name='posts')
23
24     objects = models.Manager()
25     published = PublishedManager()
26
27     def __str__(self):
28         return self.title

```

Figure 1.10: Manager for Post

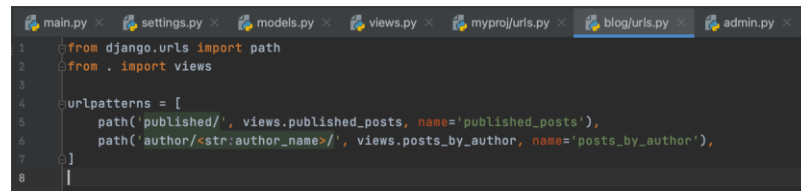
I created custom manager which will manage collection of published posts and filtering them by the author. This manager will be inherited from `models.Manager` and in it I will define methods for filtering posts.



```
1 from django.http import JsonResponse
2 from .models import Post
3
4 def published_posts(request):
5     posts = Post.published.all()
6     posts_data = [{"title": post.title, "author": post.author, "published_date": post.published_date} for post in posts]
7     return JsonResponse(posts_data, safe=False)
8
9 def posts_by_author(request, author_name):
10    posts = Post.published.by_author(author_name)
11    posts_data = [{"title": post.title, "author": post.author, "published_date": post.published_date} for post in posts]
12    return JsonResponse(posts_data, safe=False)
```

Figure 1.11: Views

In this `views.py` I added views for posts using the `'title'`, `'author'`, `'published_date'` fields. I use `JsonResponse` to respond with JSON data.



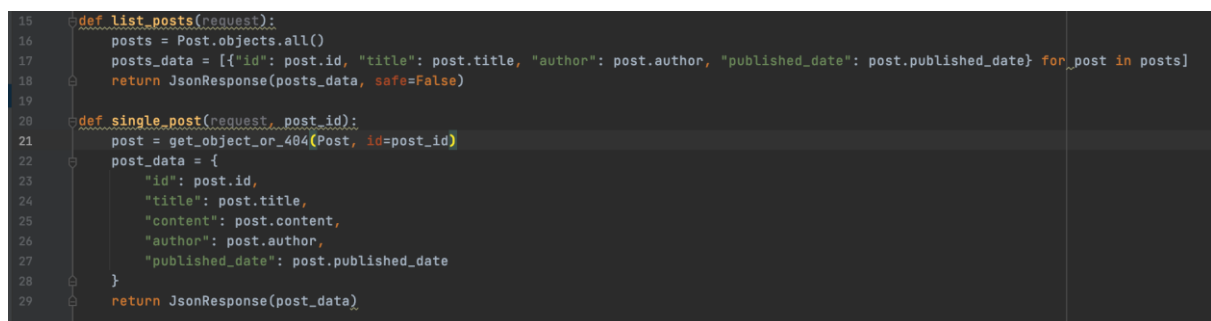
```
1 from django.urls import path
2 from . import views
3
4 urlpatterns = [
5     path('published/', views.published_posts, name='published_posts'),
6     path('author/<str:author_name>', views.posts_by_author, name='posts_by_author'),
7 ]
```

Figure 1.12: Blog URLs

To connect views with URL addresses I added routes.

## 2. Django Views

### Exercise 4: Function-Based Views



```
15 def list_posts(request):
16     posts = Post.objects.all()
17     posts_data = [{"id": post.id, "title": post.title, "author": post.author, "published_date": post.published_date} for post in posts]
18     return JsonResponse(posts_data, safe=False)
19
20 def single_post(request, post_id):
21     post = get_object_or_404(Post, id=post_id)
22     post_data = {
23         "id": post.id,
24         "title": post.title,
25         "content": post.content,
26         "author": post.author,
27         "published_date": post.published_date
28     }
29     return JsonResponse(post_data)
```

Figure 2.1: Views

Here I added two functions. First one is `'list_posts'` which returns all posts in json format. The `'Post.objects.all()'` is used to get all posts. Also, the single post function is implemented. It returns single posts by using its id. `'get_object_or_404(Post, id=post_id)'` tries to get post by id, but if the post is not found, I return 404 error.

## Exercise 5: Class-Based Views

In views file I added '*PostListView*' class which uses '*ListView*' to return list of posts.

```
32 class PostListView(ListView):
33     model = Post
34     template_name = 'blog/post_list.html'
35     context_object_name = 'posts'
36
37 class PostDetailView(DetailView):
38     model = Post
39     template_name = 'blog/post_detail.html'
40     context_object_name = 'post'
```

Figure 2.2: Views

In this class I indicated the path to rendering template. Also in the second class '*PostDetailView*' for returning details of one specific post.

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
5     <title>{{ post.title }}</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8     <h1>{{ post.title }}</h1>
9     <p>By {{ post.author }} (Published on {{ post.published_date }})</p>
10    <div>{{ post.content }}</div>
11 </body>
12 </html>
```

Figure 2.3: HTML file for post details

This html file illustrates the details of post after clicking it.

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
5     <title>All Posts</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8     <h1>All Posts</h1>
9     <ul>
10         {% for post in posts %}
11         <li>
12             <a href="{% url 'single_post' post.pk %}">{{ post.title }}</a> by {{ post.author }} (Published on {{ post.published_date }})
13         </li>
14         {% endfor %}
15     </ul>
16 </body>
17 </html>
```

Figure 2.4: HTML file for listing posts

This html file is to illustrate the list of posts.



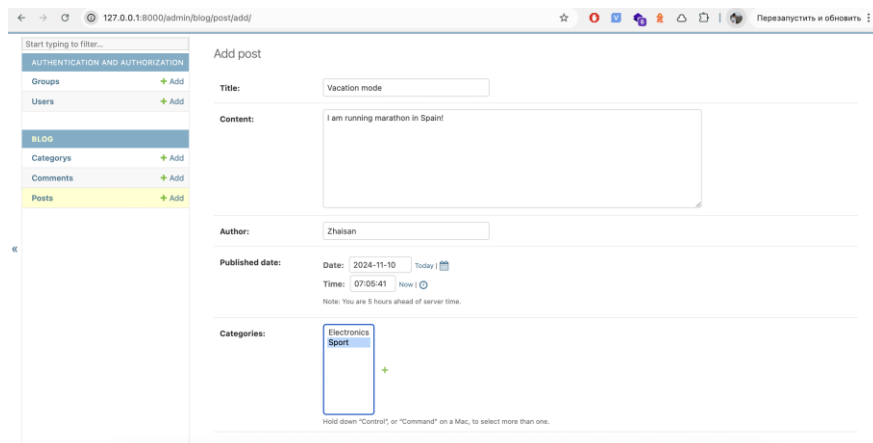


Figure 2.5: Creating post from admin panel

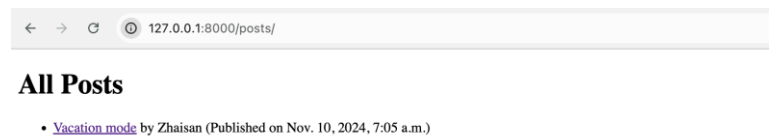


Figure 2.6: Listing posts



Figure 2.7 Post detail

In figures 2.5, 2.6, 2.7 I check that operations work well in simple HTML.

## Exercise 6: Handling Forms

```
forms.py
1 from django import forms
2 from .models import Post
3
4 class PostForm(forms.ModelForm):
5     class Meta:
6         model = Post
7         fields = ['title', 'content', 'author', 'published_date', 'categories']
8
```

Figure 2.8: Creating form PostForm

In this figure I declared class which PostForm inherits from forms.ModelForm which simplifies form creation by automatically adding Post model fields.

```

46 def create_post(request):
47     if request.method == 'POST':
48         form = PostForm(request.POST)
49         if form.is_valid():
50             form.save()
51             return redirect('list_posts')
52     else:
53         form = PostForm()
54
55     return render(request, 'blog/create_post.html', {'form': form})
56

```

Figure 2.9: View `create_post`

Here the view `create_post` which shows the form for creating new post and handles its sending.

```

1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
5     <title>Create New Post</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8     <h1>Create a New Post</h1>
9     <form method="post">
10         {% csrf_token %}
11         {{ form.as_p }}
12         <button type="submit">Save Post</button>
13     </form>
14     <a href="{% url 'list_posts' %}">Back to All Posts</a>
15 </body>
16 </html>
17

```

Figure 2.10: HTML for creating post

`{% csrf_token %}` adds CSRF protection which is required for POST requests in Django. `{{ form.as_p }}` automatically renders the form with fields wrapped in `<p>` tags for easier rendering.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `127.0.0.1:8000/posts/new/`. The page title is "Create a New Post". The form contains the following elements:

- Title:** A text input field.
- Content:** A large text area for the post content.
- Author:** A text input field.
- Published date:** A date input field showing "2024-11-10 08:19:51".
- Categories:** A dropdown menu with "Electronics" and "Sport" as options.
- Buttons:** A "Save Post" button and a "Back to All Posts" link.

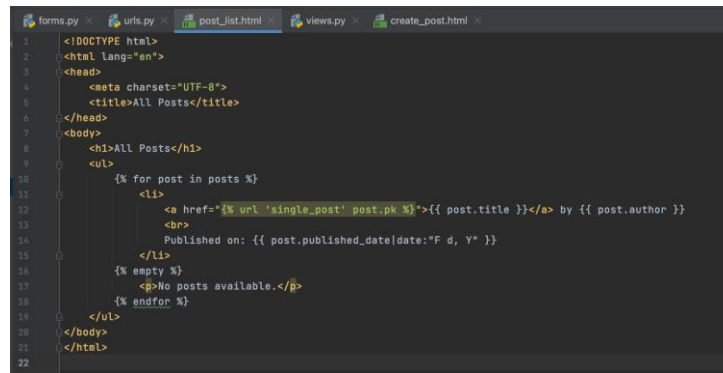
Figure 2.11: Rendered page for creating post

The new created forms for creating post is illustrated in this figure 2.11.

### 3. Django Templates

#### Exercise 7: Basic Template Rendering

Now I create templates for reflecting the list of posts. In template will be shown titles, authors, and dates of publication. For formatting dates of publication I use built-in template tags of Django.



```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
5     <title>All Posts</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8     <h1>All Posts</h1>
9     <ul>
10         {% for post in posts %}
11             <li>
12                 <a href="{% url 'single_post' post.pk %}">{{ post.title }}</a> by {{ post.author }}
13                 <br>
14                 Published on: {{ post.published_date|date:"F d, Y" }}
15             </li>
16         {% empty %}
17             <p>No posts available.</p>
18         {% endfor %}
19     </ul>
20 </body>
21 </html>
```

Figure 3.1: List HTML

In this figure I used `'{{ post.published_date|date:"F d, Y" }}'` built-in date template tag that formats publication date in Month Day, Year format (e.g. November 10, 2024). This formatting makes the date more readable.



```
35 class PostListView(ListView):
36     model = Post
37     template_name = 'blog/post_list.html'
38     context_object_name = 'posts'
```

Figure 3.2: View which uses template

In this figure I created the view which indicates the template.

#### Exercise 8: Template Inheritance

Now I create base template which includes header, footer, and I configure for listing and getting specific posts to inherit this base template. This helps to avoid code duplication and simplifies structure of templates.

```

1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="UTF-8">
5   <title>{% block title %}My Blog{% endblock %}</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8   <header>
9     <h1>Welcome to My Blog</h1>
10    <nav>
11      <a href="{% url 'list_posts' %}">Home</a>
12      <a href="{% url 'create_post' %}">New Post</a>
13    </nav>
14    <hr>
15  </header>
16  <main>
17    {% block content %}{% endblock %}
18  </main>
19  <footer>
20    <hr>
21    <p>©copy; 2024 My Blog</p>
22  </footer>
23 </body>
24 </html>

```

Figure 3.3: Base template

This template has header and footer which are common for all pages of our app.

```

1 {% extends 'blog/base.html' %}
2
3 {% block title %}All Posts{% endblock %}
4
5 {% block content %}
6   <h2>All Posts</h2>
7   <ul>
8     {% for post in posts %}
9     <li>
10      <a href="{% url 'single_post' post.pk %}">{{ post.title }}</a> by {{ post.author }}
11      <br>
12      Published on: {{ post.published_date|date:"F d, Y" }}
13    </li>
14    {% empty %}
15      <p>No posts available.</p>
16    {% endfor %}
17  </ul>
18 {% endblock %}

```

Figure 3.4: List template with base HTML

```

1 {% extends 'blog/base.html' %}
2
3 {% block title %}{{ post.title }}{% endblock %}
4
5 {% block content %}
6   <h2>{{ post.title }}</h2>
7   <p>By {{ post.author }}</p>
8   <p>Published on: {{ post.published_date|date:"F d, Y" }}</p>
9   <div>{{ post.content }}</div>
10   <a href="{% url 'list_posts' %}">Back to All Posts</a>
11 {% endblock %}
12

```

Figure 3.5: Post Detail template with base HTML

In Figures 3.4, 3.5 I added base HTML parts. `{% extends 'blog/base.html' %}` specifies that the `post_list.html` template extends the base template `base.html`.

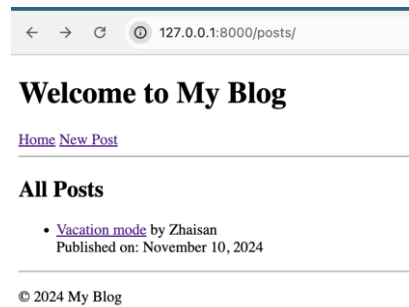


Figure 3.6: Page with header and footer

In this figure I make sure that header and footer are illustrated correctly.

### Exercise 9: Static Files and Media

Here I add CSS file to our templates using static files, and also I configure folder for media files to make users to upload images for posts.

```

1  body {
2      font-family: Arial, sans-serif;
3      margin: 20px;
4  }
5
6  header, footer {
7      text-align: center;
8      background-color: #f8f8f8;
9      padding: 10px;
10 }
11
12 h1, h2 {
13     color: #333;
14 }
15
16 ul {
17     list-style-type: none;
18     padding: 0;
19 }
20
21 li {
22     margin-bottom: 10px;
23 }
24
25 a {
26     color: #1a73e8;
27     text-decoration: none;
28 }
29
30 a:hover {
31     text-decoration: underline;
32 }

```

Figure 3.7: Styles.css file

```

1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html lang="en">
3  <head>
4      <meta charset="UTF-8">
5      <title>{% block title %}My Blog{% endblock %}</title>
6      {% load static %}
7      <link rel="stylesheet" href="{% static 'blog/styles.css' %}">
8  </head>
9  <body>
10 <header>

```

Figure 3.8: HTML with styles

In figure 3.7 I created css file for styling our app. And in figure 3.8 in base template I linked css file.



Figure 3.9: Styled page

This figure illustrates styled page using basic css features.

Here I start adding settings for media uploading.

```
127 MEDIA_URL = '/media/'
128 MEDIA_ROOT = os.path.join(BASE_DIR, 'media')
129
```

Figure 3.10: Settings

MEDIA\_URL is the URL to access media files. MEDIA\_ROOT is the path to the directory where the uploaded files will be stored.

```
17 class Post(models.Model):
18     title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
19     content = models.TextField()
20     author = models.CharField(max_length=100)
21     published_date = models.DateTimeField(default=timezone.now)
22     categories = models.ManyToManyField('Category', related_name='posts')
23     image = models.ImageField(upload_to='post_images/', blank=True, null=True)
24
25     objects = models.Manager()
26     published = PublishedManager()
```

Figure 3.11: New field for image

Here I added in figure 3.11 the field for image in Post model to make users to upload images for each post.

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
5     <title>Create New Post</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8     <h1>Create a New Post</h1>
9     <form method="post" enctype="multipart/form-data">
10         {% csrf_token %}
11         {{ form.as_p }}
12         <button type="submit">Save Post</button>
13     </form>
14     <a href="{% url 'list_posts' %}">Back to All Posts</a>
15 </body>
16 </html>
```

Figure 3.12: New attribute

Adding the feature to upload a file to the form by adding the enctype " multipart/form-data" attribute in figure 3.12.

Image:  Файл не выбран

[Back to All Posts](#)

Figure 3.13: The upload button

Figure 3.13 shows updated template page to upload image for post.

## **CONCLUSION**

This lab assignment provided practical experience in building Django application covering basic aspects of web development including models, views, templates, and forms. By implementing features like post creation, image uploads, and basic CSS styling, I improved the application's functionality and visuality.