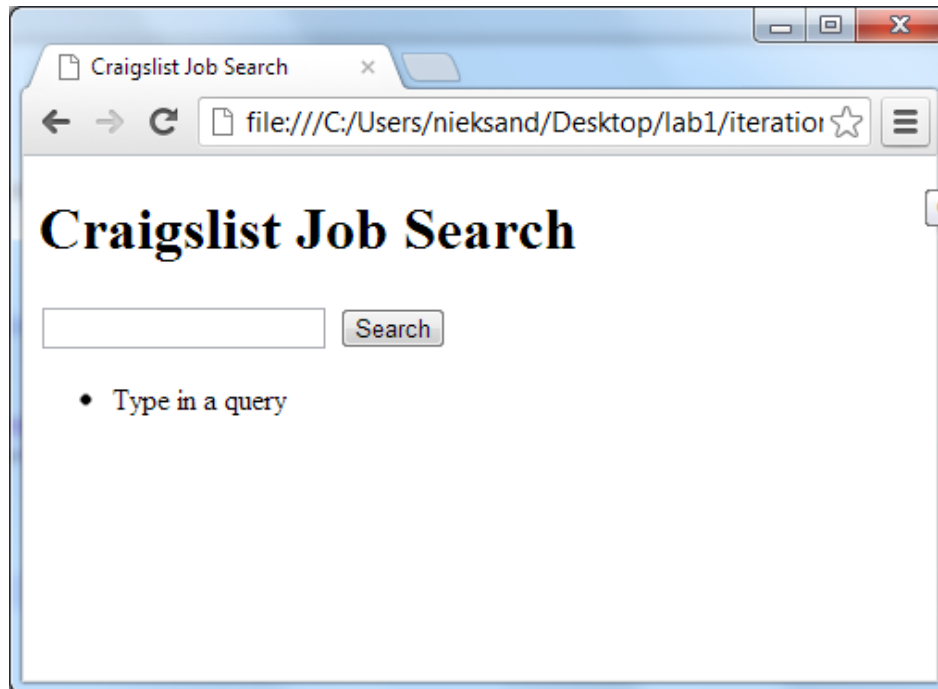# Assignment 3, Part B – Job Search Ajax

Your objective is to take user search terms and display matching jobs from Craigslist.

The big pieces you'll be fitting together;

- jQuery event handlers to grab the form submit() event
- jQuery AJAX API to pull the results via JSONP
- JavaScript object syntax to parse the JSONP results
- jQuery to manipulate the DOM to show list the result links.

Page Skeleton

A good starting point is to create the skeleton HTML page, as pictured above. Then include the jQuery library via Google's CDN.

Intercept Form Submit Events

When the user clicks "Search", you want to prevent the default form submission behavior. (Hint: return false in your event handler).

Use jQuery to pull the current value of the text field. (Hint: see serialize() or val() in jQuery API).

To ensure that you're grabbing the right thing, it's a good idea to console.log() the search terms that you're pulling in the submit event handler.

If you used val() to pull the field values, you will need to encode the string for properly transmission as part of a URL. JavaScript provides the encodeURIComponent() function to help with this.

Yahoo Query Language

Yahoo provides a really nice web API that you can use, among other things, to search Craigslist job postings.

Go to: http://tinyurl.com/9lzx9sx

Select "JSON" and click Test. The box below will show the result from making the API call. When you make a JSONP call using jQuery, this result will be in the form of a JavaScript object. You will need to navigate through the object to get to the part you care about: the list of matching Craigslist posts.

Below the result box, you can see the exact URL query needed to make this search. Three notes:

1. You can copy/paste this query into a browser tab to see the raw API result.
2. If you examine the URL, you'll see a part labeled "query". In the example, it's hard-coded to "jquery", but when you call the API from your script you will need to inject whatever the user typed in your Search box here. Simple string concatenation will do the trick.
3. If you use the getJSON() jQuery method, be sure to set the "callback" portion of the string to equal ?. So instead of callback=cbfunc use callback=?. That tells jQuery to make a JSONP instead of a usual XmlHttpRequest. See the getJSON api documentation for more details.

Populate Search Results in List

Take the list of Craigslist URLs returned from the API and place them as list elements at the bottom of your page. Remember, if you use $() with an html tag as an argument, you can create new DOM elements.

End Result

To complete the assignment, you should have the following place:

1. HTML page with search text input, submit button, and unordered list for results
2. Typing a query calls the Yahoo API and pulls the search results via JSONP
3. Search results are placed in the unordered list at the bottom of page, each element linking via anchor tags to the corresponding Craigslist page.

Submit the assignment using Moodle.