

Express & Jade

Lecture Highlights

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Express Part 2

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Generate a skeleton Express app

You can use express generator to create a project directory with a default structure. [Follow instructions here](#).

Using Router for grouping routes

About `express.Router`

“The `express.Router` class can be used to create modular mountable route handlers. A Router instance is a complete middleware and routing system; for this reason it is often referred to as a “mini-app”.

The following example creates a router as a module, loads a middleware in it, defines some routes, and mounts it on a path on the main app.”

Sourced from: <http://expressjs.com/guide/routing.html>

birds.js

```
var express = require('express');
var router = express.Router();

// middleware specific to this router
router.use(function timeLog(req, res,
next) {
  console.log('Time: ', Date.now());
  next();
});
```

```
// define the home page route
router.get('/', function(req, res) {
  res.send('Birds home page');
});

// define the about route
router.get('/about', function(req, res) {
  res.send('About birds');
});

module.exports = router;
```


app.js

```
// load the router module
```

```
...
```

```
var birds = require('./birds');
```

```
...
```

```
app.use('/birds', birds);
```

Result

We can make AJAX requests to urls:

- /birds
- /birds/about

Accessing GET parameters

Example AJAX call (index.html)

```
$.ajax({  
    url: '/user/2'  
});
```

Example server-side route (app.js)

```
// :id is an optional param  
  
app.get('user/:id', function (req, res) {  
    console.log('Our ID is ', req.params.id);  
  
    // Expect 'Our ID is 2'  
  
})
```

Additional Info

[Express API - app.param](#)

Accessing POST parameters

Example AJAX call (index.html)

```
// send data to the server via POST call
```

```
$.ajax({  
    type: 'POST',  
    url: '/user',  
    data: { firstName: 'Larissa' }  
});
```


Example server-side route (app.js)

```
...  
// Node module that makes getting request data easier  
var bodyParser = require('body-parser');  
  
// execute this middleware for every request  
app.use(bodyParser.json());  
  
app.post('user', function (req, res) {  
  // on POST calls, we can expect data in the request body  
  console.log('Our data: ', req.body.firstName);  
  // Expect 'Our data: Larissa'  
}
```

Additional Info

[Express Body-Parser](#)

Jade Templating

Jade Resources

- <http://expressjs.com/guide/using-template-engines.html>
- <http://jade-lang.com/reference/>
- <http://jade-lang.com/>