Lab 4
Forum App

Overview

Project – Build a Discussion Forum App

This week you will start a project which involves building a discussion forum app, like Reddit or Quora.

Learning Aims

- Stretch your SQL skills
- Reinforce your node.js skills
- A chance to get creative and design / build your own app

The application must be built using:

- Node.js
- Express
- EJS
- MySql

Requirements

Minimum Requirements

Here are the minimum requirements of your app

1. The system should allow **posts** by **users** on specific **topics**.
2. A **home page** with links to other pages
3. A page to list existing **topics**
4. A page to list existing **users**
5. A page to list existing **posts**
6. A page to **add a new post**
7. A page to **search for posts**
8. An **about page**
9. Posts should be associated with a single user and single topic
10. Users should be members of topics before they can post

Extensions

For a higher mark, you can add whatever extensions you want. Here are some ideas. You don't have to implement all of these for top marks!

- Replies to posts
- Delete post
- User profile page

- Topic details page
- List posts for a particular user
- List posts for a particular topic
- Tags, where any post can be tagged with 0 or more labels
- Add a style sheet to make your app look nice
- Use Mysql views for your database layer
- Use Mysql stored procedures for your database layer
- Allow a user to login/logout
- Good use of Github

Documentation

You should include documentation that shows:

- An ER diagram for your data model
- A brief list of the extensions you have made

Code

You should submit a zip of your code which:

- excludes the node_modules directory
- includes a create_db.sql script to create the database tables
- includes an insert_data.sql script to insert test data
- provides a README file that includes installation instructions, describing how to set up your application

Alternatively, submit a link to your git repository.

The marking scheme is as follows:

- Minimum requirements   30 marks
- Extensions   30 marks
- Documentation   10 marks
- Code quality   10 marks
- Discretionary marks for excellent work   20 marks

END