

# myFlix App - Case Study

By Kelsie Blackston

## Project Overview

myFlix is a web app, built with React and Node.js, that's main function is to provide users with a list of movies. The movie list contains information about the movies, directors, and genres. Users of myFlix are able to create a personal account, add movies to their favorites list, and edit or delete their account if needed. When the app is first opened, the user will need to register or login to their account. myFlix does not show the movie database unless the user is authenticated.

## Context

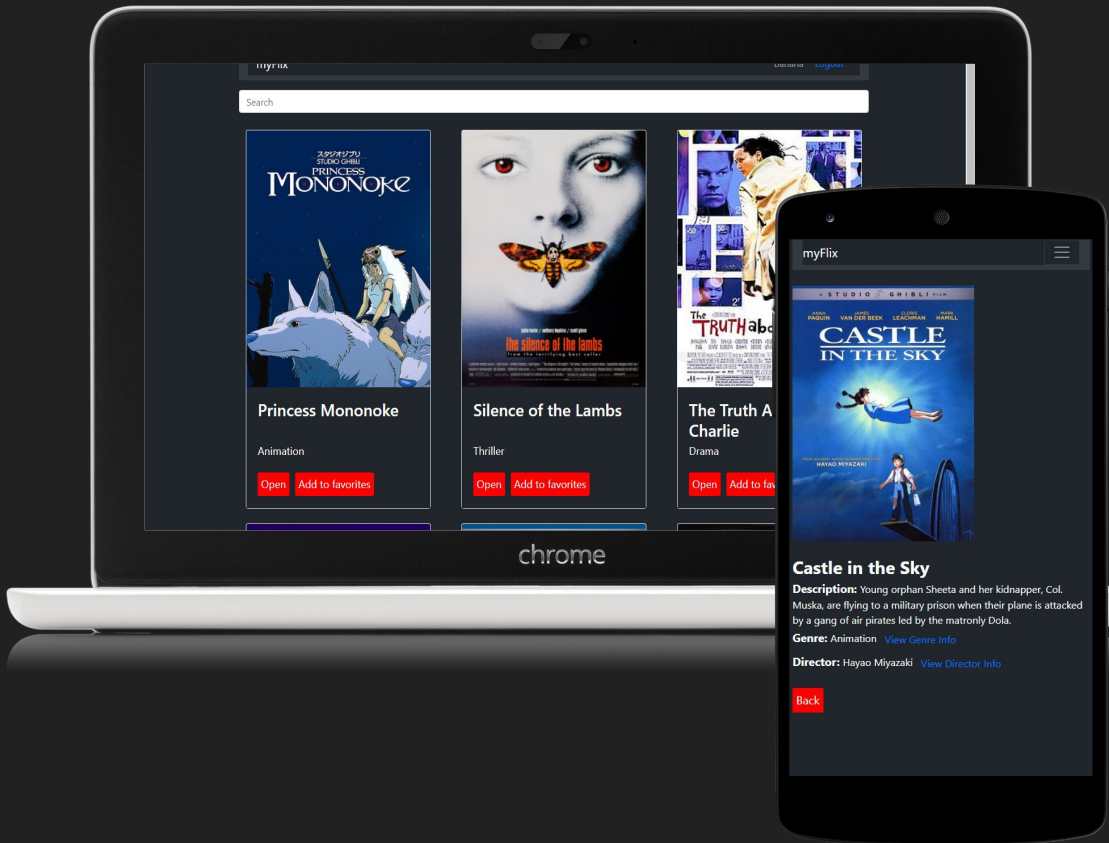
myFlix was created as a project for my full stack web development course through CareerFoundry. This version of myFlix was built as I learned and worked with React for the first time.

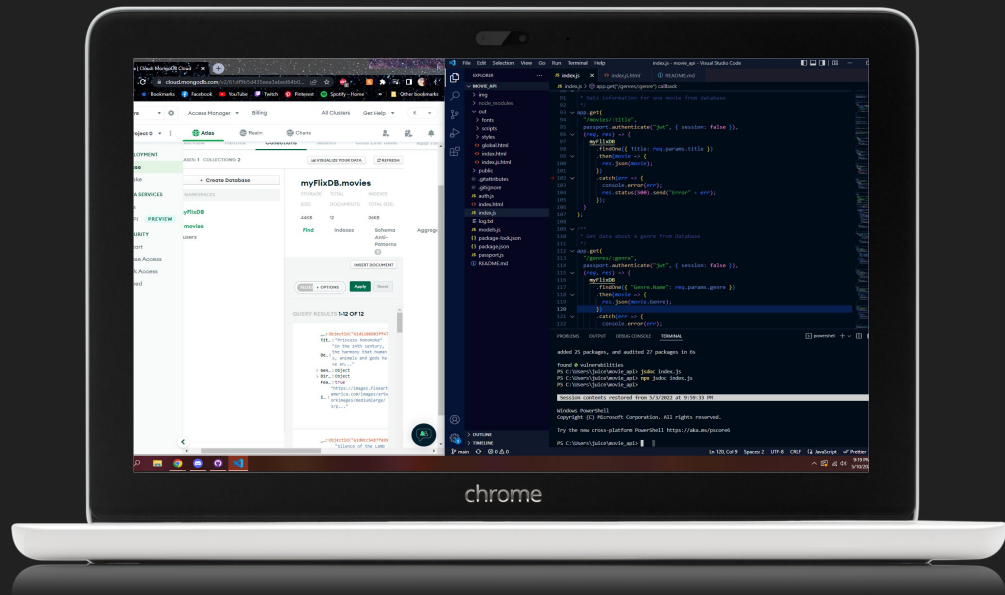
## Technologies Used

The MERN Stack (React, Express, Node, and MongoDB)  
Parcel Build Tool  
Visual Studio Code  
MongoDB Atlas  
Mongoose

# Objective

The objective was to create a complete application using server-side and client-side development. This project was intended to be a project for my professional portfolio that would show my skills as a full stack developer. First, I would need to learn backend development using Node.js and create an API that would access a movie database I had created from scratch. Second, I would need to learn how to create a client side application with React, and how to connect it to the movie database to display that information.





# Server-side Development

Using Node.js and Express, I created a RESTful API that interacts with a non-relational movie database (MongoDB). The API uses common HTTP methods like GET, POST, and DELETE. The API returns information from the movie database in JSON format. I used the program Postman to check my Api endpoints and ensure they would work properly.

I added user authentication and authorization to ensure that a user would need to create an account or log in to be able to see the movies on the app. This was implemented using basic HTTP authentication and JWT authentication.

Node.js

Express

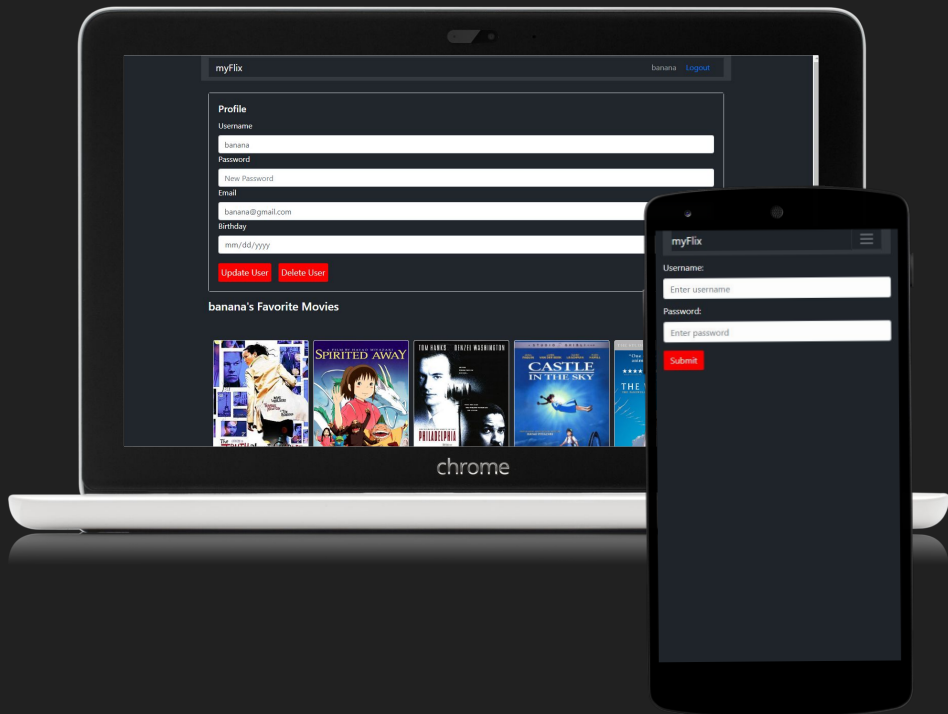
MongoDB

Postman

# Client-side Development

After ensuring the API was finished and working properly, I moved on to developing the app's frontend. This portion of the app is the side that users can interact with to see information from the API. I developed the client-side of the app using React and React Redux. I used Parcel as the build tool to be able to test the application in my browser.

myFlix is a single page, responsive application that provides several interface views. The app opens to a login view where users can login or register. After logging in, users are shown the main view, which displays a list of movies. Users can also see a single movie view, genre view, and director view from the main view. Lastly, there is an option to go to profile view, where users can view their favorite movie list as well as update profile information.



React

React Redux

Parcel

React

React Redux

Parcel

# Challenges

This project was probably the most challenging one I worked on during the entire full stack development course. That being said, it was also very rewarding and satisfying. At first, React was a bit overwhelming since there were so many components and modules to consider and work on, but I believe I caught onto working with it rather quickly. I did run into some other issues, however. For example, when first using Parcel and npm together, I had issues with node modules not being installed. After doing some research and reading Parcel's documentation online, I was able to work around the problem. For most other smaller problems, I was able to reach out to my tutor or mentor for guidance.

# Duration

The development of this project was separated into tasks that took different amounts of time to complete. Over all, this project consisted of eight tasks. Working on about two tasks a week, it took about 4 weeks to complete. This was in line with my course end date, and I had no issues staying on track.



# Credits

Role: Lead Developer

Project concept: CareerFoundry

Tutor: Matthew Henderson

Mentor: Sebastien Fillion