

Web Engineering Spring Term 2014

Exercise 3

Inspired by Evaluate Thy Hotel, another party has become interested in offering similar services to their students. It also appears that several other universities in Switzerland and abroad are currently thinking of adopting some of the features for their own sites. Therefore, Evaluate Thy Hotel wants to take new directions in the project. After a thorough review of existing technologies, they decided to build on WordPress as the platform of their choice for future developments and to use it for taking Evaluate Thy Hotel to the next level.

Note: The goal of the third series of exercises is to experiment with WordPress as one example of a general platform that could be exploited for systematic web development. In a two-step exercise, you will examine the WordPress model and extend it to suit the needs of Evaluate Thy Hotel.

Exercise 3.1 *Turning your Evaluate Thy Hotel prototype into a WordPress Theme*

In the first step, Evaluate Thy Hotel wants you to reengineer your existing prototype and turn it into a WordPress theme. To get started, you will need to set up a WordPress installation locally. We strongly recommend using WebMatrix due to easy integration with WordPress.

You should approach this task in three steps:

1. Create a WordPress theme which reuses the design from the previous exercises. For the moment, you can leave the Panorama Viewer as it is, since it will be the focus of the second part of this exercise.
2. Transform the reviews, which are the core content of your website, into Wordpress posts, so that they can be added, modified or removed using WordPress. Since the reviews also include the pictures of the locations, your theme should support post thumbnails in order to properly show those pictures.
3. Adapt the following elements in your theme according to the WordPress API so that they can be customised from within WordPress (administration page): the website title, the website description (which you can place anywhere), and the navigation menus (which should be pointing to *pages* of the WordPress installation).

Please refer to the lecture slides and the WordPress documentation to get an understanding of the general structure and functionality of WordPress themes.

Workmode and Grading. All exercises in the Web Engineering course are designed for teams of 3 students. Every member has to contribute to the team solution, and the assistants may ask about the role of each member and who contributed what.

This is the first part of Exercise 3. As with previous exercises, the two parts build on top of each other. **The final team solution for Exercise 3 will need to be presented during the exercise session on 17 April 2014.** You do not need to hand in the source code, but the assistants may ask questions about how you implemented some of the features when you demo it in the exercise session. **We will use the following grading scheme.**

Grading Scheme For each part of the graded exercises, we specify the amount of points your team can achieve and a set of requirements. These requirements represent the minimal set of goals you need to accomplish to get full points. If you fulfil the requirements only partially or fail to answer corresponding questions during the presentation, points will be deducted. No or wrong solutions get zero points.

The maximum number of points may differ between parts and thus reflect their respective weights. For Exercise 3.1, the set of requirements are specified as follows:

Set of Requirements - Part 1 (Max. points: 2)

- *Evaluate Thy Hotel* WordPress theme based on your solution developed in the previous exercise. The content of the main website (reviews of the various locations) should be managed by WordPress (i.e. they should be turned into posts).
- Support several configurable elements in your theme: website title, website description, and navigation menus. These elements should be configurable on the WordPress administration pages.