Richard Wang

What I did:

During this sprint, I focused on setting up user authentication and the basic structure of our habit tracker web app. I implemented the login and sign up pages using Django's built in authentication. Then I extended the user model to include custom fields relevant to our project.

I also created HTML templates for the landing, dashboard, login, and sign up pages. Later, I redid them to extend from a base HTML template, which includes a navigation bar with functional links for dashboard, viewing habits, profile, and logging out. There are also links for future features that will be implemented in a later sprint and currently only have a list of TODOs . I wrote a standard CSS style that gives our website a clean feel with hover over and on click buttons that have responsive design.

On the backend, I set up the base model for habits, allowing users to add habits through a form that links the habit to their account in the SQLite database. The habit model will be expanded and used a lot in future sprints.

Challenges:

To deploy our app, I attempted to host it on Render. However, I ran into issues because UNT GitLab is self hosted and inaccessible. To work around this, I mirrored the repository to my normal GitLab account, which was successful. After fixing some build and deploy errors, I ran into an issue with Django's settings module, which I am still trying to resolve.

What I learned:

Since this was my first time working with Django, I had to learn about its basics. Views, models, templates, forms, and their interactions in a full-stack web application. I also had to learn about how Django handles database interactions, which is creating models and running migrations. Understanding how Django works with forms was also helpful to implement the habit creation form and link it to the user's account.

I reinforced my knowledge of templates and CSS features, like Flexbox. I also had to consider the user interface and look at examples of successful websites to make navigation intuitive.

Attempting to deploy the project introduced me to cloud hosting. I had to understand how GitLab CI/CD interacts with Render, troubleshoot dependency issues, and deal with deployment configurations like setting up environment variables.

What I could improve:

I feel like my personal organization as well as our organization as a group could be improved. With Clickup, task tracking would help a lot and prevent duplicated work or issues from now on.