Java Servlets

* Java objects that are intended to play the role of server components in client-server communication
* Handles client request by generating responses to such requests
* Part of Java EE specifications
* Hosted in a ‘servlet container’ that provides the environment in which the servlet runs, as well as controls the ‘servlet lifecycle’

Servlet lifecycle:

Instantiation – constructor call..

* Creates an instance of the servlet to service client request

Initialization – init() method…

* Invoked only once

Request handling – service() method…

* Invoked for each client request

Destruction – destroy() method…

Invoked before the servlet instance is ‘unloaded’

HTTP Servlet

* Used to handle HTTP requests and generate HTTP responses
* Hosted in a ‘web container’ –component of Java App Server
* The service() method call is routed to a doxxx()

Two arguments:

HttpServletRequest – used to access information from request message

HttpServletResponse – used to set information in the response message