Full Stack MERN

Let's jump right into creating our full stack MERN project. First, create a new folder called "myNewProject" and `cd` into it.

```
mkdir myNewProject
cd myNewProject
```

OPTIONAL: If you want to create this full stack app in a git repository do the following:

```
git init                              //adds a .git hidden directory and initializes root
folder as a local repo
echo node_modules/ > .gitignore       //creates a .gitignore file in the app's root that
will ignore all node_modules
```

Next, create a new folder called "server" and `cd` into it.

```
mkdir server
cd server
```

Next, via the terminal or the UI, create a new file called `server.js`.

```
Mac: touch server.js
Windows (gitbash): touch server.js
Windows: copy nul server.js
```

Next, create a new project via:

```
npm init -y
```

This will create the package.json for our server. We will then need to install our dependencies:

```
npm install express
npm install mongoose
```

Then, within the server.js add the following code:

```
const express = require('express');
const app = express();
const port = 8000;

app.listen(port, () => console.log(`Listening on port: ${port}`) );
```

Let's create our modularized project structure by making four more folders within server folder that are called "config", "controllers", "models" and "routes".

This is how we create the project structure for our backend. Now, let's create our React project via `create-react-app`. Since React is used for the client side code, we can call our project "client". Make sure you are in the root folder level for your project.

```
cd ..
npx create-react-app client
```

Now that you have your React project built, you will be running two different servers: your front end React server with live reloading and your Express server.

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