

Express JS— body-parser and why may not need it

 **Michael Majdanski** May 23, 2019 · 2 min read

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ExpressJS, not to be confused with Espresso (which people still pronounce incorrectly)

Node/Express

Many of us that have been using the Node/Express Framework have been used to installing another piece of middleware in order for us to be able to read the “body” of an incoming JSON object. This piece of middleware was called **body-parser** and used to not be part of the Express framework. The good news is that as of Express version 4.16+, their own body-parser implementation is now included in the default Express package so there is no need for you to download another dependency.

Purpose

The purpose of this very short article is to get you to stop running this command if you are using Express 4.16+ (unless you absolutely have a need for it [see the **Conclusion** for more info]):

```
npm install --save body-parser
```

You may have added a line to your code that looks like the following:

```
app.use(bodyparser.json()); //utilizes the body-parser package
```

If you are using Express 4.16+ you can now replace that line with:

```
app.use(express.json()); //Used to parse JSON bodies
```

This should not introduce any breaking changes into your applications since the code in `express.json()` is based on `bodyparser.json()`.

If you also have the following code in your environment:

```
app.use(bodyParser.urlencoded({extended: true}));
```

You can replace that with:

```
app.use(express.urlencoded()); //Parse URL-encoded bodies
```

Conclusion

You might not need to install the additional body-parser package to your application if you are using Express 4.16+. There are many tutorials that include the installation of body-parser because they are dated prior to the release of Express 4.16.

A final note of caution: There are still some very specific cases where body-parser might still be necessary but for the most part Express’ implementation of body-parser is all you will need for the majority of use cases (see the docs at github.com/expressjs/body-parser for more details).

NodejsExpressjsBody ParserJsonNPM

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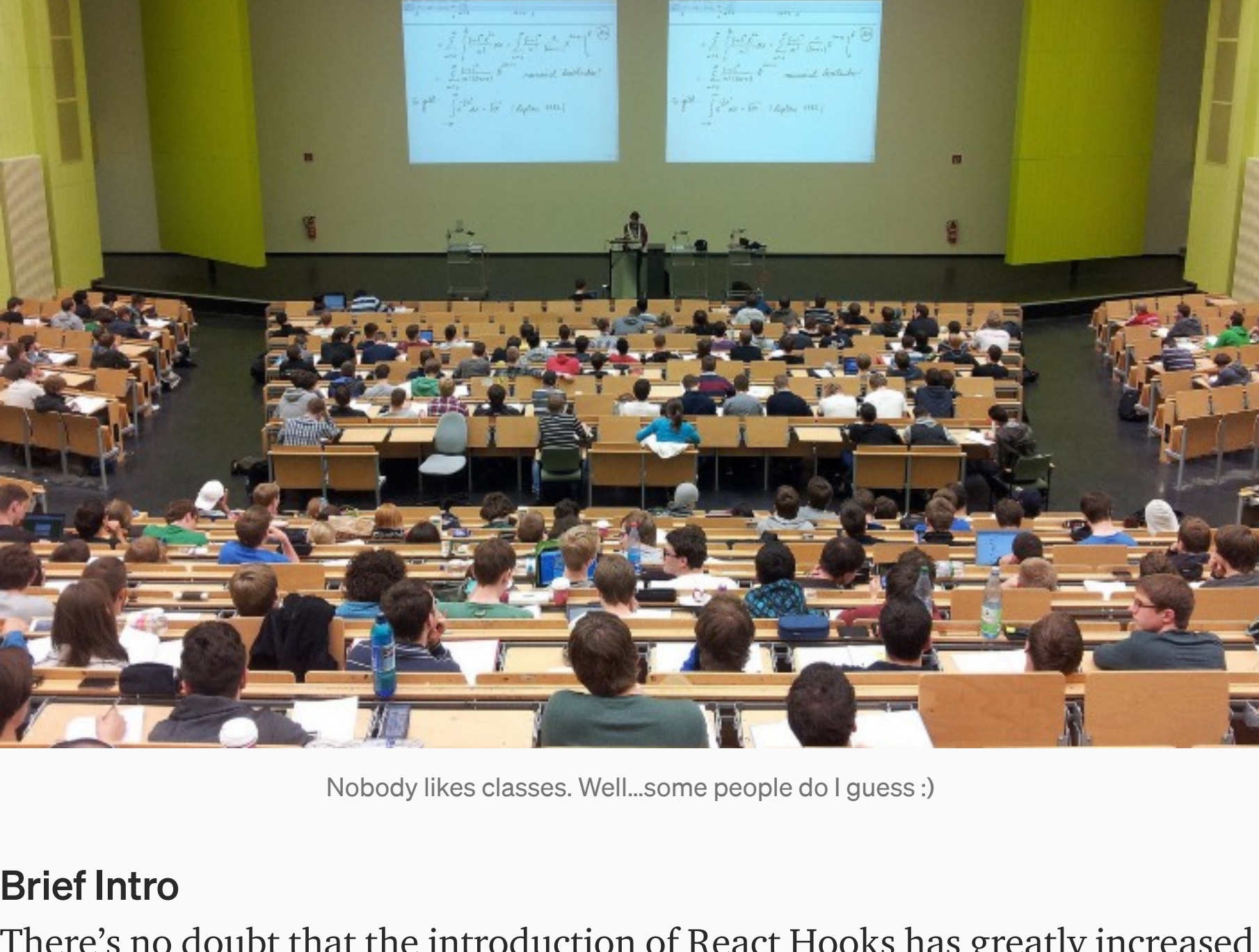
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Javascript Explorer

May 1, 2019 ★

React — useState and useContext — moving from Class to Class-less



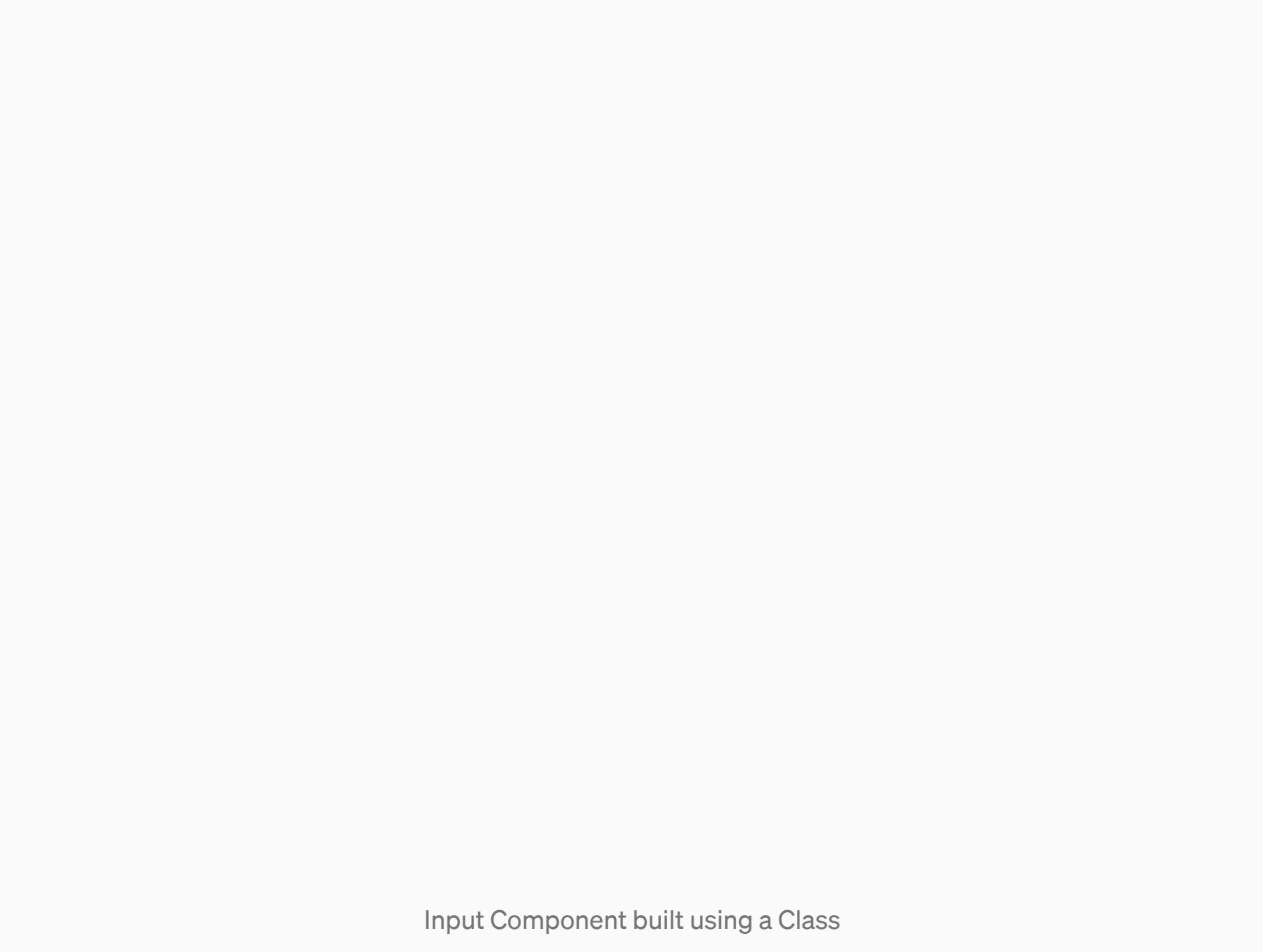
Nobody likes classes. Well...some people do I guess :)

Brief Intro

There's no doubt that the introduction of React Hooks has greatly increased the *likability* of React for *certain* developers. You get to eliminate your dependency on classes and you get rid of the horrifying: this, *this*, *this*.

This small post will be a brief and concise article that displays how to take components that are built with classes and turn them into simple functions.

Our Class Component



You can see above we have a class called **Input** that extends the **Component class** from React. We also have to make a call to a constructor where we set...

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Apr 26, 2019 ★

React — Why useContext() will clean your code



Photo by Daiga Ellaby on Unsplash

Quick Intro

I wanted to write a quick article to just explain how neat the useContext() hook can be utilized in React to clean up your code (there are many other uses to React Hooks but we will simply just look at useContext). I have seen that many developers are still a bit weary adopting some of these hooks (possibly because it only was released in the stable build of React this past February and some don't see the need for it) [see the [Official React Blog Post](#) for more details]. The post is written by the great Dan Abramov who all...

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Apr 20, 2019

Developer or Fraud — You decide



Personal Identity — Why you need one

Brief Note: This article assumes you have “some” developer skills. Otherwise, short and simple, you're not a developer. Also, this article is tackling the question from the point of view of identifying yourself, not from the point of view of employment.

Identify Yourself

Growing up, you might find it hard to identify yourself completely. What type of job do you want in the future? Who is your ideal spouse? Do you want to live in the city or suburbs? ...

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Apr 16, 2019 ★

React — Why Ionic lets you develop faster



Sketching/Designing your App could be important, but it doesn't have to be hard

Introduction

What many of us end up doing (including myself) is believing that there is only one road to success in programming. We convince ourselves that there can only be one correct way of building an application (and this seems to be mostly true for people just starting out with web/app development [aka Juniors]). The fact is, there is no right/wrong way to build your application. It either works, or it doesn't work. If I'm your client and you deliver me a platform that works, do you think I'm going to ask you a ton of questions about all of the...

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