

FAQ for the exam

(v. 2023-06-05)

Applicazioni Web I

Oral exam

Will the student need to bring his/her own PC during the oral exam?

No, the teacher will show his screen (locally or remotely) using the code submitted by the deadline.

During the oral discussion can the student keep some sheets/diagrams/etc. to help in remembering the parts of the project?

Yes.

Can I refuse the mark given at the end of the oral exam?

Yes.

During the oral exam can I provide a fix for some features that, after submission, I discovered they were not working correctly?

In general, it will be possible to discuss about such issues, but they will not modify the score of the submitted project. It will not be possible to test code that is new/modified with respect to the already submitted one.

Project: general approach

Should we consider the case in which the user reloads the page or navigate through forward/back browser buttons?

No, it is not needed. Only the buttons/links/mechanisms provided by the application will be used to navigate in the application itself. However, remember that protection by authentication is expected to be working (when required) regardless of the method used to access the content.

Do we need to handle all possible errors that might happen in the application (database open error, network communication issues, ...)?

Up to you, but make sure you handle well at least the very important error conditions. Handling errors that seldom happen (e.g., database opening/connection error) might help but it is not strictly required, especially when the user cannot do anything about them.

I used features (e.g., custom hooks or others not explained during the lectures) that were not required for the exam. Can I hope to get a better mark/score?

You can achieve the maximum score also without using such features. The use of such features cannot compensate for errors/mistakes in other parts of the project and does not yield additional marks.

Do we get extra points for implementing an additional feature X?

No extra points for features that are not requested.

Should we implement advanced features such as form field autocompletion, suggestions, responsive layouts, etc.?

Again, no extra points for features that are not requested.

How should we behave for situations which are not directly specified in the assignment?

The situations that are not explicitly mentioned in the text, or that are ambiguous, can be freely interpreted by the student. As a suggestion, you should strive for the simplest, reasonable solution, and for following the established best practices in web applications.

What should be the layout of the application? Should we put a navigation bar, a menu, modal windows, ...?

Consider, as a user, what you would like to see in the app in every situation, and how typical SPAs behave. The details are up to you. We do not care too much about the graphical aspect of the application provided that the adopted decisions are reasonable. Using the default styles of the CSS framework should greatly help in this regard.

Is any documentation required for the project?

No, except for the README.md as specified in the submission instructions, for readable code, and code comments where necessary.

Project: programming

Can packages/libraries X be used?

Yes, but 1) they must be available as npm modules that can be installed with npm install or must be self-contained; 2) you need to fully understand how to use them correctly, and be able to explain what they do during the oral exam.

Can react-bootstrap be used?

Yes

Can we use a mix of bootstrap and react-bootstrap or basic bootstrap only?

Yes, but make sure that everything is working. Probably, relying only on react-bootstrap instead of basic bootstrap or a mixture could be safer.

Can class components (or a mixture functional components and class components) be used, if desired?

Not anymore. If you attended the course several years ago and really want to use them, please email the teacher explaining your situation.

Is it mandatory to use the session authentication mechanism explained in the lectures for authentication, with Passport.js?

Yes.

Can we submit a “production build” from the development environment?

No.

Do we need to submit the node_modules folder?

Absolutely NOT!

Do we need to commit/submit the package-lock.json?

Yes, it is preferred.

Do we need to provide instructions on how to start the project?

No, it should start exactly as detailed in the submission instructions.

What does it mean to tag the project as “final” in GitHub?

You must add a “tag” in git and push it to the server. See the submission instructions.