



NYU

What is FoodTok?

Dec 2025

Project Goals

- **"Swipe-Based" Discovery System**
- **Recommendation Engine Powers Restaurant Discovery**
- **One-click reservation within the discovery flow**

Expectations

Original expectations

- 3 separate portals(Foodie,vendor,admin)
- Custom vendor onboarding & restaurant data
- Social features & gamification

Completed Expectations

- One polished Foodie portal
- Yelp API integration with user preferences
- Technical robustness (idempotency, race conditions)

WHY

- Streamlined scope without compromising core objectives
- Leveraged existing tools (Yelp API, DynamoDB Admin)
- Prioritized production-ready technical foundations

Overall Effort Towards Goals

Predicted Effort

- Top-down: infrastructure first
- One large team, weekly syncs
- Independent parallel work

Actual Effort

- Bottom-up: UI components → complexity stacking
- Sub-teams with daily async standups
- Paired mentorship across expertise levels

Key Lessons Learned:

- Over-investing in infrastructure early caused blocking
- Smaller sub-teams with frequent check-ins = faster delivery
- Knowledge sharing accelerated the learning curve for all

Performance & Systems Testing

Full of Smoke, End to End, Mocking Everyone

- We adapted an overall mock test strategy
- **End-to-End, full life-cycle for frontend, backend, and CI, plus we did load testing.**
 - **Overall Approach:** black box, json schema rules, user behavior mock, and more...
 - **Metrics:** test pass/fail, coverage percentage, button-click simulation, and server stress...
 - **Conclusion(s)?**
 - backend api coverage: **84%** → helper functions for tests themselves not covered
 - frontend
 - load test (**peak 1400 QPS, 0 failure**):

Type	P50	P95	P99
ave step	0.03s (approx.)	0.25s	1.6s
slow step	0.06s (approx)	0.44s	5.2s