
SoftAware

**Academi-co
Vision**

Version 2.0

Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
19.03.2018	1.0	First draft	SoftAware Team
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Vision

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document aims to clarify the motivations and objectives behind the Academi-co project.

1.2 Scope

This document will be used as a reference as to what is expected from the Academi-co and the SoftAware team.

1.3 Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

- *User: Any user of the website (visitor or registered)*
- *Visitor: User who did not create an account*
- *Registered user: User who created a free account*
- *Moderator: Trusted user with special authorizations and tools to regulate the content*
- *Administrator: Persons responsible for website maintenance*
- *Client: Website owner*

1.4 References

- *Planning overview - planning.pdf on <https://github.com/unige-pinfo-2018/PInfo2/tree/master/Docs/Vision>*

1.5 Overview

This document details the product's standing in the context of the current market, its stakeholders and foreseen users, its features and other specifications as well as its constraints and other requirements. It also better defines the project in regards to its priorities, planning and risks.

2. Positioning

2.1 Business Opportunity

Academi-co is a unique idea, taking a pre-existing and proven model and applying it to a whole new and more global purpose, effectively reaching a large untapped market. The monetization opportunities it offers are both numerous and flexible.

2.2 Problem Statement

The problem is	<i>Lack of means of communication between students and potential helpers</i>
affects	<i>University students and teachers</i>
the impact of which is	<i>A whole sector of potential customers, waiting for better means of communication</i>
a successful solution would be	<i>A web service providing easy and accessible means of fast communication, with a focus and incentivisation on mutual assistance</i>

2.3 Product Position Statement

For	<i>Students and teachers in universities</i>
Who	<i>Need easy and efficient communication means</i>
Academi-co	<i>is a forum-like web service</i>
That	<i>Provides tools to facilitate communication and help</i>
Unlike	<i>StackExchange</i>
Our product	<i>is very simple to use and centralizes all topics</i>

3. Stakeholder and User Descriptions

3.1 Market Demographics

Our target demographic is academic students and teachers and especially the students, which are mostly a young demographic, completely versed in the use of modern web-based technology. The usefulness of the service should bring a rapid increase in the number of users and, with that, multiple non-intrusive monetization opportunities, like add banners. Those have been a proven steady source of income that typically bodes well with that type of public, as multiple sites (like youtube.com) can attest.

3.2 Stakeholder Summary

Name	Description	Responsibilities
<i>Student</i>	<i>Student who needs or can give help</i>	<i>Brings new content to the service (questions/answers). Communicates about the product and brings new users.</i>
<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Teacher that wants to interact with students to help them and share various content with them</i>	<i>Brings new content to the service by answering the students and sharing useful documents/information</i>
<i>Client</i>	<i>Buyer of the product</i>	<i>Provides funding and resources for the product and benefits from its long-term monetary opportunities</i>
<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Person who will be in charge of the service's maintenance</i>	<i>Keeps the system running and up to date</i>

3.3 User Summary

Name	Description	Responsibilities
<i>Connected User</i>	<i>Interacts to ask and answer questions</i>	<i>- creates threads - posts answers to threads - shares information</i>

<i>Visitor</i>	<i>Someone that needs information that has been already discussed by Connected Users</i>	<i>- see other peoples' posts</i>
<i>Moderator</i>	<i>A volunteer user who maintains order in the forum</i>	<i>- moderate posts/comments</i> <i>- creates threads</i> <i>- posts answers to threads</i> <i>- shares information</i>

3.4 User Environment

Web-based application accessed through a browser on computers, tablets and smartphones.

3.5 Stakeholder Profiles

3.5.1 Student

Description	<i>University student in any kind of academic field</i>
Type	<i>A casual user, experienced in the use of web-based applications</i>
Responsibilities	<i>Producing content and relaying information about the service (word of mouth)</i>
Success Criteria	<i>Able to easily find answers to his questions and help the others</i>
Involvement	<i>Is the main user</i>
Deliverables	<i>None</i>

3.5.2 Teacher

Description	<i>University teacher in any kind of academic field</i>
Type	<i>A casual user, experienced in the use of web-based applications</i>
Responsibilities	<i>Producing content and relaying information about the service (word of mouth)</i>
Success Criteria	<i>Able to easily deliver answers to student's questions</i>
Involvement	<i>Is a user</i>
Deliverables	<i>None</i>

3.5.3 Client

Description	<i>Financial contributor</i>
Type	<i>Business executive</i>
Responsibilities	<i>Provides financial support</i>
Success Criteria	<i>Obtained a reliable source of income through optimal monetization techniques</i>

Involvement	<i>Main executive authority behind the project</i>
Deliverables	<i>None</i>

3.5.4 Administrator

Description	<i>Website maintainer, gives moderator rights</i>
Type	<i>IT Expert</i>
Responsibilities	<i>- Maintains the website - Solves potential future website issues - Gives/revokes moderator privileges</i>
Success Criteria	<i>A working and easy to maintain website</i>
Involvement	<i>Is the person to contact if there are any maintenance problems, choses moderator from a pool of candidates</i>
Deliverables	<i>Product's documentation</i>

3.6 User Profiles

3.6.1 Registered User

Description	<i>Registered user</i>
Type	<i>Casual user</i>
Responsibilities	<i>Producing content and relaying information about the service (word of mouth)</i>
Success Criteria	<i>Able to easily find answers to his questions and help the others</i>
Involvement	<i>None</i>
Deliverables	<i>None</i>

3.6.2 Visitor

Description	<i>Unregistered (anonymous) user</i>
Type	<i>Casual user</i>
Responsibilities	<i>None</i>
Success Criteria	<i>Able to easily find answers to his questions</i>
Involvement	<i>None</i>
Deliverables	<i>None</i>

3.6.3 Moderator

Description	<i>Registered user chosen to become a moderator</i>
Type	<i>Trustworthy user, experienced with forums</i>
Responsibilities	<i>Ensures the proper functioning of the administrative policies</i>
Success Criteria	<i>Able to easily find answers to his questions and help the others</i> <i>Able to moderate posts/comments</i>
Involvement	<i>Makes sure that the policies and guidelines of the website are respected by the casual users</i>
Deliverables	<i>Moderating tools</i>

3.7 Key Stakeholder or User Needs

Need	Priority	Concerns	Current Solution	Proposed Solutions
Get help on specific topic	1	Students and teachers	Find a specialized site or an available person	Global and centralized forum for academic questions
Discuss academic subjects	2	Students and teachers	Use social networks or contacts to find interested persons	Create and find threads on that subject with tags

3.8 Alternatives and Competition

3.8.1 StackExchange - Big userbase, wide range of subjects

3.8.2 StackOverflow - Big userbase with steadily and quickly available help

3.8.3 Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Google+, etc.) - Global and easy to use

4. Product Overview

4.1 Product Perspective

Academi-co is a standalone web-based product.

4.2 Summary of Capabilities

Stakeholders Benefit	Supporting Features
<i>Students can easily and efficiently find help for their problems</i>	<i>Threads creation and tag based search</i>
<i>Client can flexibly monetize the site</i>	<i>Advertisement banners on the website, and possibility to use the website data for commercial use.</i>

4.3 Assumptions and Dependencies

Academi-co is a standalone web-based product, working on different browsers (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, Edge).

5. Product Features

5.1 Create an Account

As a user, I want to securely create an account, so that I can post on the website.

5.2 Post

As a registered user, I want to create threads and answer existing ones, so that I can ask for help or help others.

5.3 Visualize

As a user, I want to read ergonomically presented threads, so that I can get answers in a digestible way.

5.4 Search

As a user, I want to search on the website, so that I can easily find and visualize existing threads and look for a specific user.

5.5 Login/Logout

As a registered user, I want to login and logout to the website, so that I can post.

5.6 Homepage

As a user, I want to be brought to a quality interface when opening the website, so that I get an easy and immediate access to the site's core content.

5.7 Voting System

As a registered user, I want to rate threads and answers, so that other users may find the content I deemed most useful.

5.8 Content Organization

As a user, I want to see the most useful content in priority, so that I increase my chances of finding what I'm looking for.

5.9 Tags

As a user, I want to have subjects-related tags, so that I can identify the content's topics.

5.10 Inbox

As a user, I want to have a private inbox, so that I can receive notifications.

5.11 Add Administrator

As the super-user or an administrator, I want to add new administrators, so that the website can be maintained.

5.12 Send Candidacy for Moderation

As a user, I want to apply for a moderator position, so that it can be reviewed by administrators and I can participate to maintaining the website's content.

5.13 Elect Moderator

As an administrator, I want to pick candidate moderators and revoke their privileges, so that the website content's integrity can be maintained.

5.14 Moderation Tools

As a moderator, I want to have intuitive moderation tools, so that I can enforce the website's guidelines, filter inappropriate content and block a user.

5.15 Metadata

As a user, I want to access information about the content, so that I can get a better idea of its context.

5.16 Advertisement Banners

As a client, I want to put advertisement banners on the site's pages, so that I can efficiently and non-intrusively monetize the website.

5.17 Help Page

As a user, I want to be informed about the site's guidelines and tools, so that I can use the site optimally.

5.18 Flags

As a registered user, I want to signal inappropriate content or users, so that they can be reviewed by a moderator.

5.19 Format

As a registered user, I want to have access to tools to format my posts, so that they can be more interactive and easy to read.

5.20 Dashboard

As a registered user, I want to have a dedicated page, so that I can access content relevant to my interests.

5.21 Follow Threads

As a registered user, I want to follow threads, so that I can be notified of their activity.

6. Constraints

Must be compatible with popular web browsers (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Edge).

7. Quality Attributes

Maintainability : the website must be easy to maintain and update.

Performance : the site must be responsive and the search functionalities must be fast.

Availability : the site must be available at all times from every major web browser, except during scheduled maintenance tasks.

Robustness : the content added to the site must be durably stored.

Usability : the site must be intuitive to use.

Modifiability : the site can support the addition of new languages.

Scalability : the site must support a progressive but large increase of its userbase (workload/storage).

8. Precedence and Priority

- *Post*
- *Visualize*
- *Create account*
- *Login / Logout*
- *Metadata*
- *Tags*

- *Search*
- *Voting System*
- *Content Organization*
- *Follow Threads*
- *Inbox*
- *Dashboard*
- *Add Administrator*
- *Send Candidacy for Moderation*
- *Elect Moderators*
- *Moderation Tools*
- *Flags*
- *Advertisement Banners*
- *Format*
- *Homepage*
- *Help Page*

9. Other Product Requirements

9.1 Applicable Standards

Compatibility with common web browsers.

9.2 System Requirements

An internet connection and a web browser.

10. Documentation Requirements

10.1 User Manual

None

10.2 Online Help

Help page (cf. specifications)

10.3 Installation Guides, Configuration, and Read Me File

None

11. Planning

cf. planning visualization

12. Risks

Priority	Description	Impact on the project	Occurrence indicator	Mitigation strategy	Alternative plan
<i>1</i>	<i>Lack of experience</i>	<i>Buggy or</i>	<i>Spending longer</i>	<i>Use external</i>	<i>Reassign</i>

	<i>from the development team</i>	<i>missing features, delays</i>	<i>than expected on researching tools, bugs and integration problems</i>	<i>knowledge bases (Google, Stefan, Steve)</i>	<i>workload, abandon/simplify requirements</i>
2	<i>Too many new requirements appearing during development</i>	<i>Delays</i>	<i>User story analysis reveals new requirements more than once</i>	<i>Analyze each user story thoroughly at the start of the project, adjust planning accordingly</i>	<i>Simplify vision of the impacted features, scale down requirements</i>
3	<i>Bad planning management</i>	<i>Dependency issues, missing features</i>	<i>Missing dependencies when starting a task</i>	<i>Regular planning/dependencies review</i>	<i>Rework the project planning, and work reassignment</i>
4	<i>Bad personal time management (can be caused by external factors)</i>	<i>Delays</i>	<i>Missing feedback from the developer, being increasingly behind personal schedule</i>	<i>Expect longer work days than planned, transparency</i>	<i>Work reassignment</i>
5	<i>Unforeseen browser compatibility issues</i>	<i>Delays, sections of the site unsupported on certain browsers</i>	<i>Encountering compatibility issues that were not accounted for during development</i>	<i>Very regular testing and team prepared to encounter and tackle such problems</i>	<i>Simplify the visuals/features causing the problems on the impacted browsers</i>
6	<i>Lack of developers availability</i>	<i>Delays, missing features</i>	<i>Developers regularly unable to attend meetings and/or deliver their work</i>	<i>Flexible plannings and obtaining commitment</i>	<i>Review scope and redistribute work</i>
7	<i>Lack of appeal from the site</i>	<i>Loss in userbase and potential revenue</i>	<i>Insufficient growth in the userbase during a benchmark period</i>	<i>Get feedback on the site from potential users and graphic design specialists</i>	<i>Rework the site's appearance and add incentives for user activities</i>