

Student Survival Guide

Project Report

Group: The Ordinary Minds

Members:

Ellyshia
Aisa
Luc
Darius

1 Introduction

We were given the task of making a website that appeals to students specifically by our teachers. We do not just see all around us students who are struggling to adapt to their new student life, but also experience the same in our everyday life. Therefore, we decided to make a website that would help those students and get them back on their feet by providing solutions to the source of some of their problems, we aim to realize our goal of helping students.

2 Current Situation

Tons of students are still struggling with adapting to their new life, whether it is deciding what to eat every day, knowing where to find groceries within a limited budget, or even how to socialize and meet new friends and people after moving into a new chapter in their lives. Limited finances regarding home organization are also a tricky thing students need to navigate through. According to these matters, these students need a platform to help them give tips and tricks on how to tackle these matters in their everyday life.

3 Problem Statement

From surveys and interviews we conducted, we were able to get information on the problems and causes from our target users. Below is a more in-depth description of the problems that we got from the analyzation of the conducted user research.

3.1 Meal Planning

Most students find it exhausting having to think about deciding what to eat and cook every single day, and some also believe that cooking is too time consuming.

3.2 Cost-Effective Shopping

For most students, they struggle with finding cheap daily necessities and groceries.

3.3 Home Organization

For some students, they find it important to decorate and organize their home. However, most of them find it complicated to do because of the limited budget they can organize their home from.

3.4 Socializing

Some students find it hard to socialize and to meet new people because, they do not know where to start from, and they do not know where they can find the right people. We also learned that they also worried that socializing and meeting new people will make them spend too much money.

Process and Result

After gathering data from our target group, we narrowed down the key issues we need to provide solutions for. The list below is what our product will provide:

- A page with information, tips, and tricks on meal planning and easy quick recipes.
- A page with information, tips, and tricks on where to find cheap groceries that are healthy and other cheap necessities.
- A page with information, tips, and tricks on socializing. Where to find communities and associations, so student can find their very own interest groups. Money friendly options to hang out. Helpful resources and information on how to get over the fear or anxiety of talking to people and making friends.

In the first sprint, we focused on user research: Finding out what students struggle with, and their needs. We brainstormed ideas and made assumptions based on our experience as to what students (even us) struggled with. We then conducted research on whether our assumptions were correct, or not, to make sure we did not miss anything crucial. (We did this by doing multiple interviews and doing a survey.

Deciding what we will add to the final product and what we will exclude, we made a MoSCoW chart. Then we could start to think about the design of the website which followed prototyping. We started by making paper prototypes. We asked for tons of feedback from peers and teachers, so in the end we could perfect it. Then we decided to proceed with making the design and interactive prototype in Figma then tested it on our target-users (students). Then we made a fully functional Figma interactive prototype and went around to test it on our target-users (students) and adjusted the design through multiple iterative processes based on their feedback.

After that we moved on to the implementation, and the task division is as follows:

- Ellyshia: Home Page, Food Page, Article Pages related to the Food category (see Appendix A, B, C)
- Aisa: Social Page, Article Pages related to the Social category, Hamburger navigation menu (see Appendix D, E, F)
- Luc: Finance Page, Article Pages related to the Finance category (see Appendix G, H)
- Darius: About Us Page, Contact Us Page (see Appendix I, J)

After the task division was set, we then all proceeded to work on our parts. After 1 and a half week of implementation, we finally connected all the pages. Despite the positioning issues that are present in some of the pages, the website itself can be said as complete content-wise, and fulfilled the Must and Should haves in our MoSCoW chart.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In conclusion, our group project faced challenges related to attendance and inequality among team members. These issues impacted our collaboration and project outcomes, but luckily in the end it still was not a major problem. To address attendance concerns, a clear policy and open communication are essential, in the end we did gain this skill.

Additionally, promoting inclusive team dynamics, equal task distribution, and skill-sharing sessions can mitigate inequalities and enhance overall project effectiveness.

Recommendations:

- Establish a clear attendance policy and communication channels.
- Foster an inclusive team culture with equal participation and task distribution.

- Conduct regular project evaluations to address issues promptly.

Evaluation/Reflection

From the start of the project, our group had already had a problem with one member not showing up and not participating in most of the group meetings. However, we agreed that the shortage of one member's work is still manageable so we adapted to that. In sprint 1 and 2, all the members of the team were always active and participating during group meetings, therefore throughout these 2 sprints, the group dynamic was good, and we also got a lot of positive feedback regarding our group dynamics and group works.

The most difficult part was during sprint 3, the implementation of the website. Throughout the first two weeks of sprint 3, only two members were active, and the group dynamics were not as good anymore. However in the last week, fortunately the two members that weren't active at first started to do their parts in the project, and our website are able to have all the pages and contents present. Below are the evaluation from each member regarding the experience throughout the group project:

Ellyshia

In the beginning of the group project, most of the time we only worked in 3 because 1 member was often absent. However, despite that problem, I feel that the team dynamics between the 3 of us was good in the beginning, however that changed during the designing and implementation process. Throughout the designing and implementation process, mostly only 2 members, me and Aisa, were active and mostly both of us thought and worked on the design. I think that we could've delivered something better than the product that we have now if all members gave the same effort in doing the group project, especially during the implementation phase. However, I think that the planning of our project was done well since we started the implementation earlier to avoid not finishing the project. Overall, although this group project wasn't done with equal efforts from all members, but with good planning and quick decision-making we were still able to deliver a product that fulfilled the Must and Should haves in our MoSCoW chart.

Aisa

The overall workflow of our group was not too shabby as we managed to nearly accomplish everything outlined in our initial plan. However, it is essential to acknowledge that we did face some challenges.

Firstly, the consistency of group members' presence was not so constant, particularly during the initial stages and implementation phase. Additionally, there was a noticeable inequality in task distribution, with some members taking on more responsibilities than others. While this was manageable for our current project, it serves as a valuable lesson for everyone to reflect upon and learn from – both for those who contributed more and those who contributed less.

Towards the final week, our collaboration strengthened, and we were able to function cohesively as a group. We successfully engaged in brainstorming sessions and achieved our primary objectives.

In summary, while our group's performance was not subpar, there is room for improvement. Areas such as time management and reliability could benefit from attention in our future endeavors. Overall, it was a valuable experience that provides an opportunity for growth and enhancement in our teamwork.

Luc

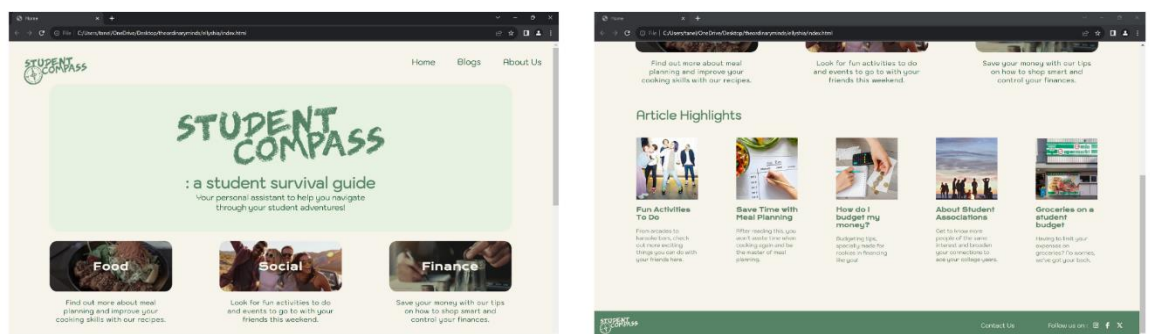
The project was a success despite challenges with attendance and meeting deadlines. We all did our part but there is room for improvement. Like others already mentioned, I think to avoid this in future projects we should make better rules and enforce them better. We handled the attendance problem well but not our deadlines because we hadn't made clear rules for that. This is something to consider in the future. Overall, I can't say that I'm proud of how I did, and I will strive to be better with the lessons learned this project, however I am content with the end result and happy with my team members despite my shortcomings.

Darius

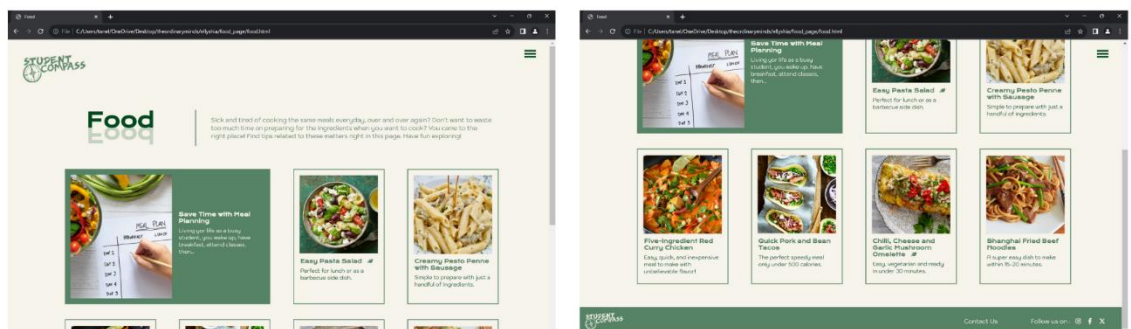
The group experience turned out well, and all challenges were successfully resolved. In hindsight, I recognize an opportunity for improvement in my time management skills to ensure consistent attendance at every meeting in the future.

Appendices

A. Home page

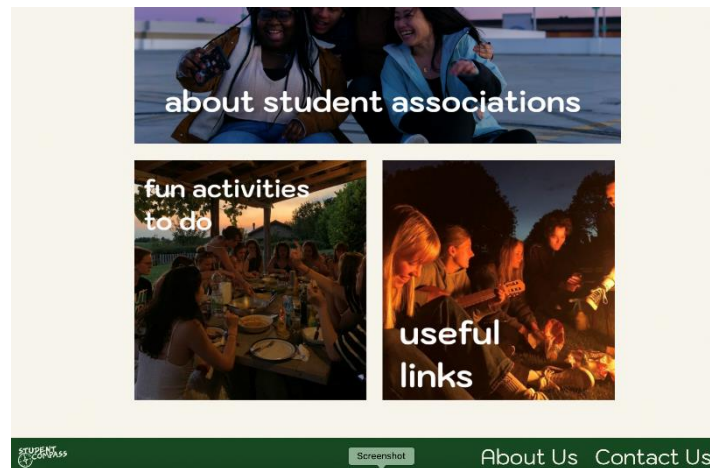


B. Food category page:



C. Article pages related to Food category:

1. Meal Planning page



E. Article pages related to Social category:

About student associations

University associations are a good idea to join since you can find similar people to you, and your interests.

There are usually many options, related to sports, arts, sciences, and traveling.

Most of these annual fees are in a very friendly price range so you do not have to

Upcoming Events

Fabrique des Lumières

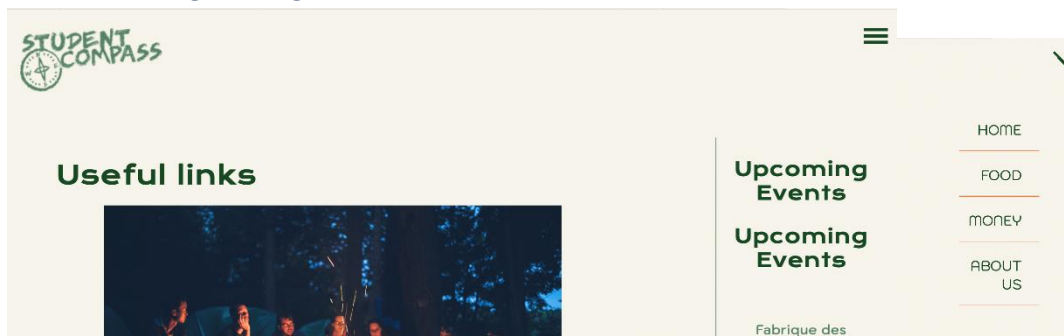
See a different world in Amsterdam, until February 17!

[Link for the website!](#)

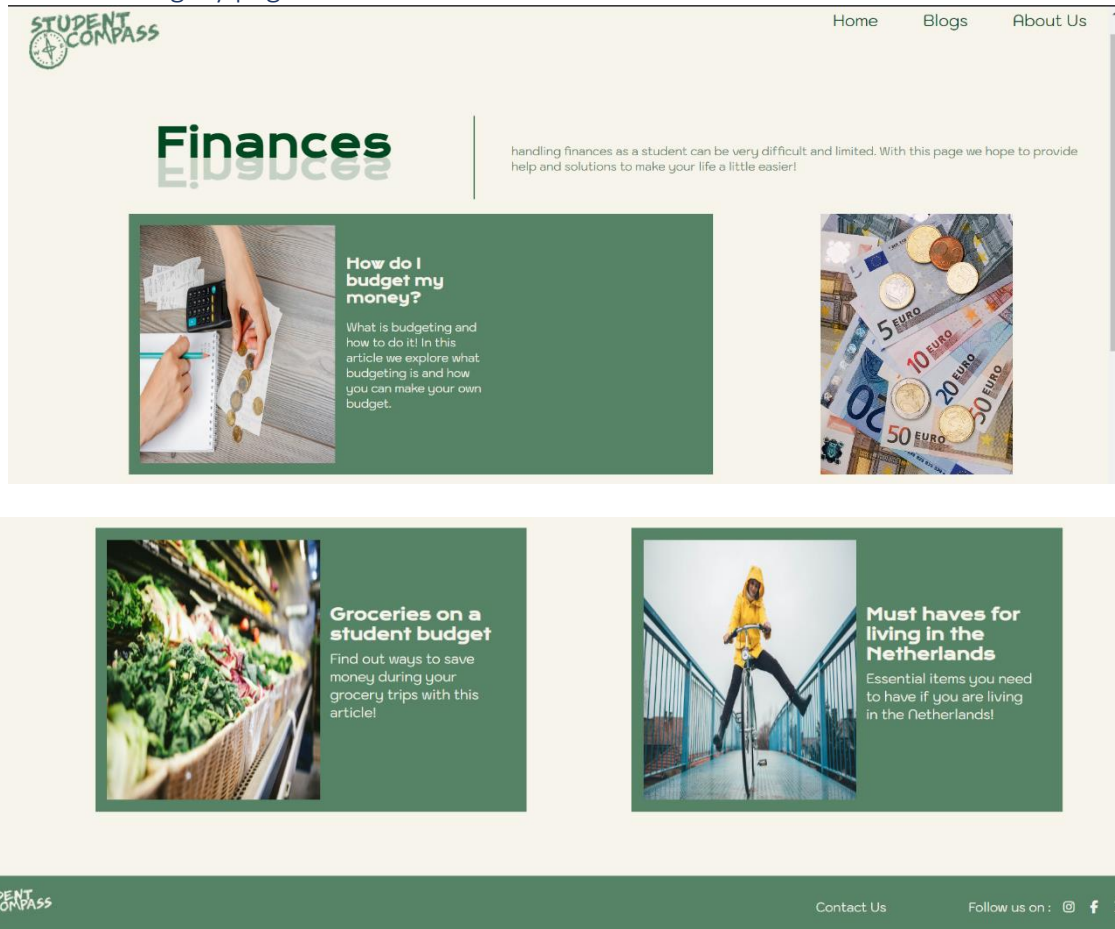
Free tulip picking!

On January 20, we celebrate the official start of

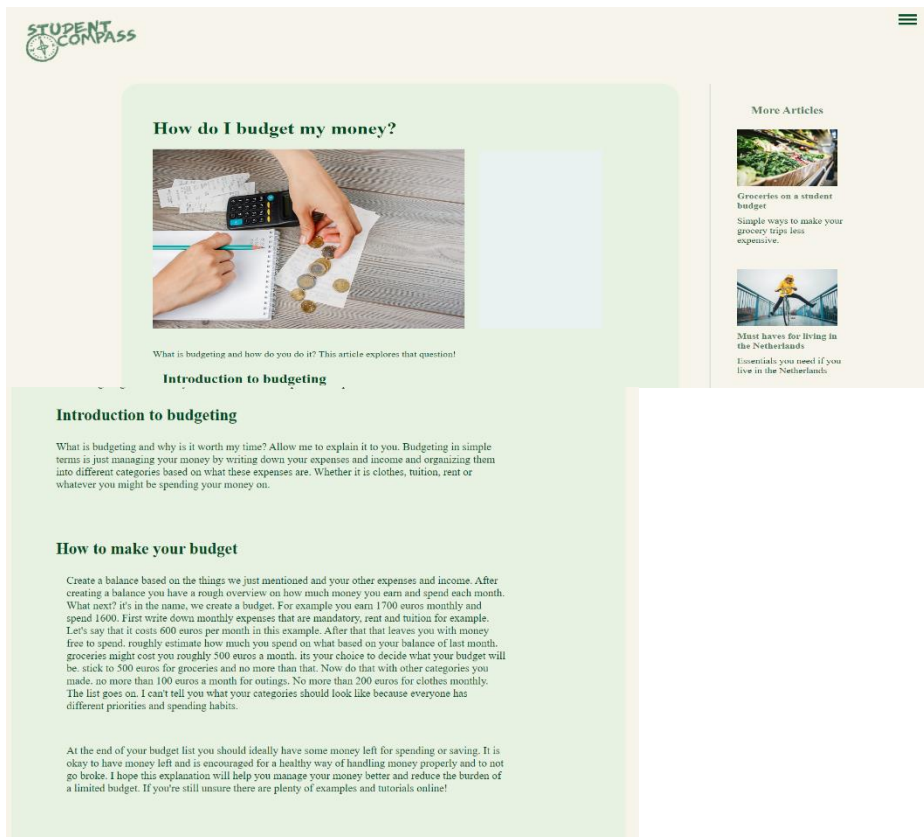
F. Hamburger navigation menu:



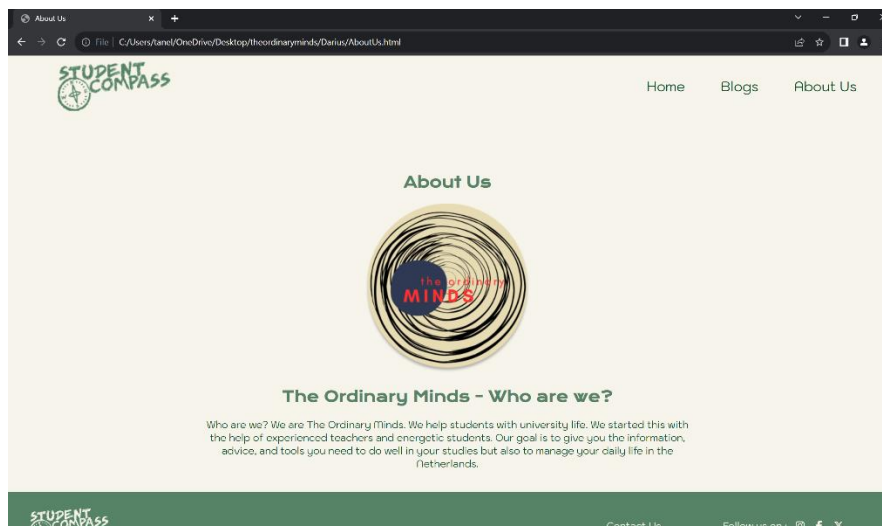
G. Finance category page:



H. Article pages related to Finance category:



I. About Us page:



J. Contact Us page:

