

AutoAdvisor Administrative Manual

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CS Rocks Inc.

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Preface

AutoAdvisor Overview:

AutoAdvisor is a course selection aid. It solves the problem of selecting courses that best meet the academic and lifestyle requirements of today's on-the-go student. It lets users find classes they should take that they might not otherwise have found and save time and effort that would be wasted on the inefficiencies of SPIRE. It eliminates the requirement of user expertise for class selection, allowing users to create excellent class schedules without needing to learn the eccentricities of the SPIRE system.

Using SPIRE directly allows users to add classes directly from the class search feature, but AutoAdvisor can meet or exceed the utility of this feature by giving 5-digit course numbers to use directly on the enrollment page. SPIRE's main weaknesses are that searching for anything on it takes a tremendous amount of time, and the user must already know what sorts of things might satisfy their requirements.

AutoAdvisor will provide all the information needed by the user on the main webpage through which the website is accessed.

System Overview:

The AutoAdvisor system includes a web interface, a database, a scheduler, a recommender, a text processor, and an accounts manager. The web interface allows users, be they students, university staff, or administrators to access the site. The database holds user information and course information. The text processor takes raw course information and transcripts and converts them into information which can be moved into the database. The scheduler generates schedules for the user, while the recommender gives long term predictions. The accounts manager handles accounts.

AutoAdvisor takes advantage of Amazon's Elastic Beanstalk service to host the database and code. It is affordable, highly scalable, and allows AutoAdvisor to focus less on managing a server

and more on actually building services.

All documents contact information, and further help related to AutoAdvisor can be found at:

<https://github.com/Auto-Advisor/autoadvisor/wiki>

Table of Contents

1. Software requirements.
2. Installation instructions.
3. Issue tracking instructions.
4. Maintenance instructions.

Guide Body

1. Software requirements:

- To download manage and run AutoAdvisor, the following software is required:
 - git
 - ruby 1.9
 - nodejs
 - mysql 5.5

2. Installation instructions:

- Assumptions:
 - A linux-type environment and familiarity with the command line.
 - An Amazon AWS account with the following services:
 - i. Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud
 - ii. Amazon Relational Database Service
 - iii. Amazon Elastic Beanstalk
- Installation instructions can be found at:
<https://github.com/Auto-Advisor/autoadvisor/wiki/git-access-and-build-instructions>
- Instructions for running the server locally can be found at:
<https://github.com/Auto-Advisor/autoadvisor/wiki/running-the-server>

3. Issue tracking instructions:

- AutoAdvisor uses GitHub's issue tracking mechanism for all issues encountered during use and development.
- The issue tracker can be found at URL:
<https://github.com/Auto-Advisor/autoadvisor/issues>.
- Click on 'New Issue' in the top right of the page.
- Reporting issues to the tracker requires a GitHub account and the following information:
 - A short descriptive title.
 - A priority (E.G. bug, feature request, security vulnerability, ect).
 - A more in-depth description of the issue.
- The issue tracker will be looked over periodically by the AutoAdvisor team.

4. Maintenance instructions:

- Database maintenance information can be found at:

<https://github.com/Auto-Advisor/autoadvisor/wiki/database-use-and-maintenance>

Glossary

A description of terminology found in this document: