Individual Weekly Report for Ayush Mehta

AI Powered Cooking Assistant Web App

August 18, 2025

# Accomplishments

* Deployed the app
* Integrated nutrition facts feature in the recipe component
* Fixed the mobile UI for ingredients autocompletion list conflicting with ADD button
* Finished the last professor meeting
* Met with the expert
* Finished the code review
* Provided an update to stakeholders

# Weekly Activities

| Activity / Task / Work | Hours | Status |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Worked on class report | 1 | Complete |
| Class time | 2.5 | Complete |
| Send update to stakeholders through Google Forms worked on preparing the Google Forms | 2 | Complete |
| Meet with professor | 0.5 | Complete |
| Deployed my app  Learned how to deploy app from Youtube  Learned about Render.com for backend deployment and Netlify.com for frontend deployment  Learned how to set secret keys and json files for deployment | 6 | Complete |
| Fixed the mobile UI for ingredient autocompletion conflicting with the ADD button | 3.5 | Complete |
| Integrated calories count API  Updated the backend and frontend implementation for calories count | 10 | Complete |
| Worked on Portfolio draft | 2 | In Progress |
| Met with the expert  Code review with the expert | 2 | Complete |
| Worked on peer review assignments | 4 | Complete |
| **Weekly Total** | **33.5** |  |
| Previous Weekly Cumulative Total (Carry Over) | 159.5 |
| **Current Cumulative Total** | **193** |

# Plans for Next Week

| Activity / Task / Work | Est Hours |
| --- | --- |
| Class time, slide show | 2.5 |
| Attend the colloquium | 2 |
| Finish the Portfolio | 3 |

# Response to Feedback

# This past week, I successfully deployed my app and shared the live version with my stakeholders for testing. They were able to explore the features, and I received the following feedback:

# One stakeholder suggested allowing users to type multiple ingredients at once, separated by commas. I agree this would improve usability and plan to implement it.

# Another stakeholder recommended limiting certain features, such as nutrition facts and dietary preferences, for users without an account, while still allowing them to generate up to N recipes.

# Most stakeholders expressed that they would love to use the app regularly and encouraged me to move forward with a production-ready deployment.

I also received some feedback from the expert. Aashima liked my progress on the project and enjoyed using the website. Some feedback she provided was:

* Add rate limit to the application to control how many users at a time can send requests.
* Add more edge cases to input validation like number of characters allowed.
* Use DataDog monitoring services since I have deployed the application.

# Other Reflections

# This was one of my busiest weeks, but also one of the most productive. I successfully deployed my app and shared it with others, which was exciting, I really enjoyed seeing their reactions to something I built. I also integrated one of the most requested features: calorie count. This allows users to view the nutrition facts for each recipe, which was very well received.

# I truly appreciated the feedback from stakeholders and expert. Their input helped me recognize the strongest features of my app as well as the areas that need improvement or modification. Overall, it was a rewarding experience that gave me both motivation and clear direction for the next steps.

# Comments, Issues, Notes, Anything Else?

No comments or issues as of now.

# Evidence of Work

Link to the live website: [Vite + React](https://stellar-longma-577d56.netlify.app/)

Below is the screenshot of the nutrition facts feature

A screenshot of a nutrition chart

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Below is the screenshot of the fixed mobile UI for autocompletion conflict with ADD button.

Note: the list doesn’t show up when I am trying to take the screenshot. You can see the different ADD button on mobile screen though.

A screenshot of a phone

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

# Interaction Report

Interaction Type: Instructor

Interaction Date: August 11th, 2025

Attendees: Dawn-Marie Oliver, Ayush Mehta

## Summary of Interaction

In this meeting, I provided my professor with an update on the progress of my application and discussed the features I am currently working on. We reviewed the feedback I had received from Slide Show 3 and went over how I planned to incorporate it into my project. Specifically, I shared that I am working on implementing dietary preferences, serving size adjustments, and a random ingredient generator. These features were suggested to improve the usability and overall user experience of the app.

We also briefly discussed the possibility of adding a calorie count feature, which I identified as a highly requested functionality by my stakeholders. I explained how this feature could enhance the app by giving users more insight into the nutritional aspects of the recipes they generate.

Another important topic we touched on was the upcoming expert and code review meetings. I asked questions regarding scheduling and requirements, and the professor clarified that I could combine both into one meeting as long as I cover both elements. This flexibility will help me streamline my timeline and make the most of my interaction with the expert.

## Action Items

* Finalize the implementation of dietary preferences, serving size, and random ingredient generator.
* Begin planning and developing the calorie count feature as the next step.
* Schedule and complete the expert/code review meeting before next Thursday.
* Prepare notes and questions in advance to maximize the effectiveness of the expert review.

## Reflection on the Interaction

# This meeting was mainly an opportunity to give a progress update and confirm I am on the right track with my feature development. I realized how important it is to prioritize features based on both stakeholder feedback and feasibility within the timeline. The conversation reinforced that adding features like dietary preferences and calorie count will make the app more engaging and practical for users.

# I also gained clarity on the requirements for the expert and code review. Initially, I thought these had to be two separate meetings, but learning that I can combine them into one session gave me more flexibility and reduced scheduling pressure. Overall, the meeting reassured me that I am making steady progress while also helping me refine my next steps and set clear priorities for the upcoming week.

# Interaction Report

Interaction Type: Expert

Interaction Date: August 17th, 2025

Attendees: Aashima Mehta, Ayush Mehta

## Summary of Interaction

I met with my expert to share my progress and discuss my project in detail. I demonstrated my deployed website and highlighted the features I have implemented so far. She was impressed with the clean UI and smooth user experience, noting that the functionality works well and feels intuitive.

During the code review portion, she appreciated the way I structured my project, specifically how I kept components separate and maintained a clear organization between the frontend and backend. She also highlighted my effective use of APIs, clean naming conventions, and overall readable code, which she felt would make the project more scalable and maintainable in the future.

## Action Items

* Add input validation for edge cases (e.g., maximum character limits).
* Prioritize user experience for the first group of users to ensure smooth adoption.
* Improve error handling to provide clearer and more helpful responses.
* Implement a rate-limiting system to prevent crashes from excessive requests.
* Integrate DataDog (or a similar service) to monitor the health and performance of the application.

## Reflection on the Interaction

This meeting gave me valuable feedback on both the strengths and areas for improvement in my project. I learned that while my app has a strong foundation in terms of UI, UX, and code structure, there are still important technical considerations I need to address to ensure long-term stability and scalability.

The suggestions around input validation, error handling, and rate limiting helped me recognize potential weak spots that could cause issues if left unchecked, especially as more users begin to test and adopt the app. Additionally, the recommendation to use a monitoring tool like DataDog emphasized the importance of proactively managing performance and preventing downtime.

As a result of this interaction, I plan to prioritize these technical improvements alongside adding new features. This will help me deliver not only a functional application but also a reliable and user-friendly product that can handle real-world usage. Overall, the meeting reinforced my confidence in the direction of my project while also helping me refine my roadmap for the next phase.

# Interaction Report

Interaction Type: Code review

Interaction Date: August 17th, 2025

Attendees: Aashima Mehta, Ayush Mehta

## Summary of Interaction

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During the code review portion, she appreciated the way I structured my project, specifically how I kept components separate and maintained a clear organization between the frontend and backend. She also highlighted my effective use of APIs, clean naming conventions, and overall readable code, which she felt would make the project more scalable and maintainable in the future.

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# Interaction Report

Interaction Type: Stakeholder

Interaction Date: August 14th, 2025

Attendees: Ayush Mehta, Vinisha, Adam, Luke

## Summary of Interaction

This week, I shared an update with my stakeholders by sending them the deployed version of my app along with a Google Form to collect feedback. The stakeholders explored the website, tested the features, and provided constructive suggestions on how the app could be improved. Overall, they appreciated the progress I had made and were excited about the direction of the project.

## Action Items

* Implement the ability to input multiple ingredients at once using commas.
* Add restrictions for non-registered users, such as limiting them to generating up to N recipes and disabling advanced features (nutrition facts, dietary preferences).
* Begin preparing the app for a production-ready deployment, as stakeholders expressed interest in using it regularly.

## Reflection on the Interaction

This interaction was very encouraging, as my stakeholders were able to test the app live and provide meaningful feedback. I learned that while the current features are well-received, usability improvements (like bulk ingredient input) can make the app much more convenient for users. I also realized the importance of creating a structured user flow that differentiates between registered and unregistered users.

The enthusiasm from stakeholders about using the app daily boosted my confidence and validated the project’s value. In response to their feedback, I have decided to prioritize improving user input options and account-based feature restrictions before working toward a production deployment. This meeting reinforced the importance of continuous stakeholder engagement in shaping the app into something both practical and user-friendly.