TEACHER: Cosmetology

* What is the current gradebook system that you use?
  + Google Classroom
* Is it important that the grade system integrates into the LMS (learning management system) where assignments are posted? Examples of LMS are Schoology and Blackboard.
  + All the assignments are administered through Google Classroom, so with the current setup, it would not make sense to use a separate gradebook.
* Would it benefit you to have assignments sorted into categories, such as tests, projects, homework, participation, etc.?
  + Yes, seeing everything in one table makes the grading process slower.
* What is the first place you typically navigate when you login to your gradebook system?
  + Single course page with a table of all student grades
* What features are not available in your current gradebook that you would utilize?
  + A monthly calendar would be useful; the system only has weekly.
* What features do you utilize the most in your current gradebook system?
  + Posting and grading assignments
* What features do you utilize the least in your current gradebook system?
  + N/A
* Would pre-generated emails regarding a student’s grades be helpful to you?
  + Yes, but combined with notifications on the dashboard.
* Do you use an online gradebook, paper gradebook, or a combination of both?
  + Online only
* Do you use the online gradebook to gather statistics about your students' grades, such as high and low performers or average test scores?
  + Only to see those students currently failing.
* Do you leave comments on student grades in the online gradebook?
  + Yes, all the time
* Do you manually mark assignments as missing or active in your current gradebook? Would you prefer the system to do that automatically?
  + Manual marking
* Do you utilize a calendar feature in your current gradebook? If not, would you use it if it was available?
  + Yes, but the calendar is weekly. Both weekly and monthly would be preferred.

Post presentation:

* Is the site easy to navigate?
  + Yes
* Is the site visually appealing?
  + Yes, but it is monotonous. Add more color to break things up.
* What features do you feel need to be added to make Good Grades a viable competitor to your current gradebook?
  + Fix the monotony
    - Possibly add ways to customize the colors, such as the choosing the color of the blocks on the teacher dashboard
    - Unique icons for courses (like scissors for cosmetology, stethoscope for nursing, calculator for math, etc.)
  + Needs a calendar for teachers and students
    - Making this page printable would also be useful

Other notes from the interview:

* The idea of email and homepage notifications was a big hit. A feature to also filter them by criteria such as failing student vs. student audit was deemed helpful. She liked the idea of real time emails for things like failing students, but also thought a summary email of all unread notifications at the end of the day could be useful.
* She felt that every page needed to be improved visually. The design is boring, and the color scheme needs to be expanded. She suggested we add a background to the homepage and/or incorporate the school’s stock images or logo.
* A quick reference to the assignments due today for a class would be useful
* A legend for the color-coded table rows should be added. Bottom of the nav bar possibly?
* I mentioned the dot plot, and she said that she would not utilize it. Outliers are generally not of concern, only failing students.
* I showed her the student view and got some opinions on these pages as well.
  + Duplicate the recent/missing tables into the single course view. Add a filter feature on the homepage versions.
  + Email students their progress reports.
  + More color needed on these pages too, maybe switch from all blue headers to include other colors.

STUDENT: Nursing

* What is the current gradebook system that you use?
  + Teacherease
* Do you utilize a calendar feature in your current gradebook? If not, would you use it if it was available?
  + A calendar is not available for students, but she would use it if it was available.
* Would you use a feature to automatically send an email to your professor regarding a gradebook adjustment (incorrect, missing, etc.)?
  + Yes
* Do you read teacher comments on your grades?
  + Yes
* Do you use an online gradebook to access your grades? If not, how do you receive your grades?
  + Yes, no paper grades
* Do you feel that teachers typically grade your assignments in a timely and accurate manner?
  + Yes
* Do you feel that notifications when an assignment is graded are beneficial? How about an option to filter them, and only get notifications if a grade is abnormally low or worth lots of points (like a big project/exam), in an effort to avoid “information overload”?
  + Yes, a notification for all input grades regardless of the point value or score. She would use both dashboard and email notifications.
* Would you use tables of upcoming assignments or assignments recently graded?
  + Yes, to both

Post presentation:

* Is the site easy to navigate?
  + Yes
* Is the site visually appealing?
  + It’s bland. Needs more color and pictures.
* What features do you feel need to be added to make Good Grades a viable competitor to your current gradebook?
  + Search bar for assignments table
  + Assignments sorted into categories, like attendance, tests, worksheets, etc.
  + Include both percentage and points earned in the table (A toggle button would be acceptable)
  + Letter grade for each assignment shown in the table

Other notes from the interview:

* She preferred to have the whole table row colored for grades because she thinks it would help with quick reference.
* She would use printable pages if it was available.
* She also suggested adding a chart showing % to letter grade (on the bottom of the side nav bar?).
  + Like 80% - 89.9% = B
* She said the dashboard would likely be more useful if it was just the total grades table and a calendar. If not adding a calendar, she still suggested we move the summary tables for recent and missing to the course view.

ADMINISTRATOR: Nursing

* What is the current gradebook system that you use?
  + Teacherease
  + They switched away from paper gradebooks only three years ago, and this is their second online system. They are still not fully satisfied with this current one.
* Do you use an online gradebook to monitor professor performance?
  + No, but she would use it if this feature was available.
* Do you use the online gradebook to monitor professor timeliness when submitting student grades?
  + No
* Do you utilize a calendar feature to monitor professor timeliness? If not, would you use it if it was available?
  + No. She would likely not use a calendar for this purpose.
* Are you likely to take action if the system shows that a particular teacher continuously grades easy or hard, relative to the others?
  + Yes
* Do you have access to see grades on all teachers, or only those that work under you? Grades for every student/assignment, or just averages?
  + All grades are accessible from every teacher under her.
* Would keeping grade data hidden from administrators be appropriate due to confidentiality?
  + In their school’s design, it would not be appropriate to hide student grades from administrators.

Post presentation:

* Is the site easy to navigate?
  + Yes, the table are also easy to read.
* Is the site visually appealing?
  + Yes, but she would like to see more color.
* What features do you feel need to be added to make Good Grades a viable competitor to your current gradebook?
  + Administrators need to be able to see grades.
  + Need to be able to see the datetime an assignment was graded.
  + Creation and management of student accounts needs to be simple.

Other notes from the interview:

* I showed her the other pages since we had extra time.
  + We need to account for weighted categories/assignments.
  + She said the coloration on the teacher tables should be just in the score column.
  + She said a dot plot would likely not be useful to admins or teachers.
* Suggested we not only include printable pages, but also printable, preformatted report cards
* Her current gradebook has tons of features that they don’t use, and it feels like they are constantly throwing them at you. The homepage is especially cluttered. Maybe we should include something like show/hide toggles for extra tables/features?

Hypotheses Results:

* Professors utilize an online gradebook to input student grades. (Use Case: Professors using website to input grades)
  + True
* Professors utilize an online gradebook to view outliers and other grade statistics. (Use Case: Professors identifying outliers/statistics)
  + Outliers: False
  + Other Stats: True 🡪 Failing students
* Students use an online gradebook to monitor their grades and ensure they don’t have anything missing or overdue. (Use Case: Students checking grades)
  + True
* Administrators monitor professor performance. (Use Case: Administrators monitoring professor performance/ensuring adequate usage of the system)
  + True
* Administrators monitor professor usage of the gradebook system. (Use Case: above)
  + False
* Professors use the online gradebook to view a single student’s grades. (Use Case: Professor looking at single student performance view)
  + True
* Professors and students would not utilize an online gradebook’s calendar.
  + False
* Administrators would utilize an online gradebook’s calendar to monitor professor timeliness.
  + False
* Teachers would leave comments on student’s grades occasionally.
  + True, often!
* Students would read teacher comments on their grades.
  + True
* A common problem with existing gradebook systems is that they don’t have a way for students to flag grades they believe to be incorrect, and they don’t have a way for teachers and students to see an overview of everyone in one place.
  + True
* Teachers will want a way to setup categories of assignments to help manage them better, such as tests, projects, homework, participation, etc.
  + True