



JoLa™

Discussion forums ReImagined, ReDiscussed



Final Report

UBC 360: Web Programming

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Walk Through of the Site

1. Home Page

This is JoLa's homepage, which allows unregistered users to browse the most popular posts without logging in. However, unregistered users are limited in their access to the site. Clicking on a post will redirect them to the login page, preventing them from viewing all comments. They are also unable to create a new thread without logging in. Registered users have access to all posts and can use the menu buttons to search through threads. The 'Prime' Threads section on the right displays the threads with the greatest number of post engagements. To sign up or login, users click the "Sign in" button in the top right corner on the navigation bar.

2. Login Page

Upon clicking the "Sign in" button on the home page, the user is redirected to the login page. In case the user has an existing account, they can enter their credentials and proceed to click the "Login" button. Alternatively, if the user does not have an account, they must click on the "Sign Up" button to proceed.

In the unfortunate event that the user has forgotten their password, they have the option of clicking on the 'Sort it Out!' link below the "Login" and "Sign Up" button options, to figure out a way to get into their accounts again.

3. Register Page

Once the user clicks on the "Sign Up" button on the Login page, they will be redirected to the registration page. Here, they will be prompted to enter their desired username and then proceed to the next step by clicking the "Next Step" button. On the subsequent page, they will be required to provide their email, username, and password, in steps. If the user accidentally navigates to the next steps, which are on different pages, they can easily return to the previous page by clicking the "Previous Step" button.

Once a user has completed the registration process, they are required to verify their account via email. **Upon** successful verification, the user can click on the "TAKE ME BACK" button to be directed to the login page. Then, they can input their registered email and password to log into the website. Upon successful login, the user's username and profile picture will appear on the navigation bar, indicating that they are logged in.

The user will be notified that their "Passwords don't match" if that is the case.

If the user tries to login before verifying their email, they will be notified that their "Email is not verified."

4. Restore Account Page

In case the user cannot remember their login details, they can click on the "Sort it Out!" link on the login page. From there, they will be taken to the Restore Account Page where they can enter the email address they used to sign up and initiate the password reset process.

5. Create Thread Page

When the user clicks on the "Discuss Something New" button on the Home Page, they will be redirected to the "Thread Create" page where they fill in the fields required. After filling in the required fields, they can create the thread by clicking the "Post Your Thread" button. Upon successful creation of the thread, they will be redirected to the newly created thread.

6. Thread Posts Page

This is a thread page where posts belonging to various threads are displayed. Users have the option to either join or leave the thread, and the buttons will update in real-time without requiring a page refresh to reflect votes up or down, for the posts and the comments too.

- There is a "Prime Profiles" tab, which displays the top five users' profiles with the most posts in a specific thread.
- Users can vote on a post without having to access the post itself.
- The posts can be sorted based on either "Leading" or "Recent." Sorting by "Leading" will display posts with the most votes at the top, while sorting by "Recent" will arrange them based on their creation time in ascending order. This sorting feature is dynamic meaning that it will reflect current statistics.
- The post owner or an admin can choose to "Hide" or "Remove" a post without having to access it. Removing a post will delete it from the thread, whereas hiding a post will disable it, preventing any comments or votes being made on it. However, the post will still be visible to users. It is also possible to hide or delete a post from within the post itself.
- In the page images, we can see comments on the thread post. These comments can be voted on as well without having to enter the post. And of course, the admin, and the post owner can delete any comments on this post without entering it.

7. Create Post Page

To initiate a post on a specific thread, users must click the "Discuss Something New" button located on the thread page. To successfully create a post, users need to provide a valid title and fill in any other piece of information which could be the Post Body, a Post Image, and a YouTube URL. Once all the required fields have been filled, users can click the "Create Post" button. This action will direct users to the thread where the post resides, and they can see their newly created post.

8. Posts Page

On this page, users have the ability to vote and comment on posts and the comments on the post. This is demonstrated in the images. Comments are sorted chronologically from newest to oldest. Clicking on the sub-thread below the thread title redirects the user to the main sub-thread page. Post owners and admins can delete or hide posts and comments. Comments and posts are dynamically updated within seconds.

Posts which are disabled by the administrator can't be voted on or commented on. This feature was created for the Admin in the event of the Violation of Community Guidelines.

If the post owner or administrator decides to delete a post from the Post page instead of the Threads page, the user will be redirected back to the main thread page after the post is deleted.

9. User Notifications Page

Upon clicking the megaphone bullhorn icon on the notification bar, users will be able to view various activities occurring within their associated active sub-threads.

10. Account Page

No matter where one is on the website, one can always click one's username on the navigation bar to access this Account Page. The account page displays all posts associated with the user, including those they have created or commented on. One can also access their profile settings from this page through clicking on the "Profile Configuration" button under the Profile Image container.

11. Settings Page

Upon clicking the "Profile Configuration" button on the Account Page, one can access this page which allows them to modify their profile by updating their profile picture, changing their username or password, or even deactivating their account.

12. Search Page

To easily access this page, click the "JoLa" Home logo on the navigation bar, click on "Threads" in the left-hand side menu bar, and finally click on "Search Something" in the same menu bar. The Search page allows the user to conduct a search for specific posts, threads, or comment reactions.

13. Admin Main Page

To easily access this page, click on the “JoLa” logo on the navigation bar, and then click the “Mgmt Portal” option on the left-hand side menu bar. This option will only be visible if the account is an admin account. This page displays various metrics and trending posts to the administrators. It's worth noting that the administrators now have access to a **new menu bar – Mgmt Portal**, which allows them to navigate to the homepage or access additional functionalities related to users and threads.

14. Admin Users Page

To easily access this page as an admin, click on the “JoLa” logo on the navigation bar, and then click the “Users” option on the left-hand side menu bar. On this page, administrators have the ability to search for specific users or browse through the entire user list. Clicking on a username will lead to that user's profile. Additionally, the admin can view the email confirmation status and admin status of each user. The admin also has the power to promote or demote a user to or from an administrator role and can also block or unblock user accounts.

15. Admin Threads Page

To easily access this page as an admin, click on the “JoLa” logo on the navigation bar, and then click the “Threads” option on the left-hand side menu bar. This page is specifically designed for admins, who can search for a particular thread by entering its name in the search bar or scroll through the list of threads. By clicking on the thread URL, they can inspect the thread and view details such as who created the thread, whether the thread is active or hidden, and the number of members who have joined the thread. The admins can perform several actions on the thread, including hiding, restoring, or deleting it, based on their preferences.