CIS 4250 – Software Design V
Instructor: Prof. S. Scott
Individual Accountability Report (IAR) Template

Note. Refer to the Project Manual for detailed instructions for IAR submissions.

Individual Accountability Report (IAR) Template
The following questions MUST be included and answered completely for each submitted IAR.

IAR must be submitted one of the following file formats: text or PDF.

Q1. Student Name: Jake McAuley

Q2. Student ID: 1060842

Q3. Associated Team Deliverable: Initial system design + product backlog

Q4. Team #: Section 2 Group 6

Q5. What were the main technical or methodological knowledge, skills and/or abilities (KSAs) that were required to complete this team deliverable? What prior courses or experiences (e.g. co-op, group project, etc.) from your Software Engineering degree did you draw on for these KSAs? (bulleted list is preferred):

- Particularly for me
    - Product analysis (Marketing knowledge, Startup knowledge from Y-Combinator)
    - User experience design (HCI course offered at Guelph)
    - Full-stack web development fundamentals (Making websites as a hobby)
    - React, MongoDB, Express and Node.js (Worked on a MERN stack website as a hobby project)
    - Solid english language skills (Life-time)

Q6. What was your existing level of experience with these topics/skills before your team began working on this deliverable? (1-2 sentences):

- I would say my domain knowledge of user experience design, product design, and full-stack web-development are reaching a junior/intermediate level from various experiences gathered from my time at Guelph/summers working on solo-projects.

Q7. Comment on your individual KSAs learning during this deliverable, and what additional learning may be needed to understand or be more competent with these topics / tasks in the future?

- I delved very deep into user experience analysis in order to properly map the product fundamentals of the existing project.

- I believe more real-world experience shaping a project by user feedback (LeanUX approach will solidify this knowledge further.)
- I learned just how difficult it is to analyze an existing project from a code-base.
    - More experience mapping out a project from a technical perspective will require me to mature my code-review process and domain knowledge. I found it difficult to actually spot any architectural weaknesses)
- I learned how to actually format and write a professional level analysis of an existing software project
    - Leading how to guidea a reader through a software project and user-experience of a project.

Q8. What specific contributions did you make to this team deliverable? This should include technical or project management contributions.

- I researched and wrote the user-experience section of the document, as well as the overview and introduction to the Analysis section, as well as the introduction to the overall document.
- I wrote the introduction and overview of the Proposed Product Redesign section
- I contributed to the technical analysis section
- I contributed heavily to the vision and direction of the new proposed product, shaping the direction of the entire document.
- I contributed heavily to the user stories and tech stories
- I wrote transitional sections between different sub-sections
- I contributed heavily to formatting and editing the document.

Q9. With whom did you collaborate for any of the above contributions (be specific – saying "all team members" is not sufficient. State which parts you worked on with whom)?

- Dawoud on the technical analysis section as well as tech stories. We collaborated and informed each other's decisions in our respective sections.
- Naza on the proposed project redesign section
- Ike on the introduction and system overview section
- Ed on formatting and editing
- Naza + Ed helped inform my decisions regarding the introduction to the proposed project redesign section.
- Naza helped formatting, editing, and rewriting ase well as fleshing out the content of the proposed project redesign section.
- User stories included all team members simultaneously.

Q10. Comment on how well you managed your time over the time period allocated in the Course timetable to this team deliverable (i.e. the time between the prior team deliverable to this team deliverable).

- Time management was sufficient during this sprint but with significant room for improvement. The general/high level overview of worked completed was as follows:

- 2+ hours worked the first day of the spring (Tues)
- Significant contributions on the following thursday (6+ hours of research and writing)
- Following Tuesday, 2+ hours of work in team setting
  - Formatting + collaboration on user stories and gitlab
- Wednesday, 6+ hours writing and editing
- 4 - 5 hours the following Thursday for finishing touches and editing.
- While a significant amount of work was completed later in the sprint, close to the deadline, the nature of the work made this relevant (waiting for findings from other group members, etc.)
- That being said, schedule decisions were made knowingly without an overall feeling of being rushed.
- In the future, more time should be allotted earlier to finalize the document so that only editing and double checking will take place close to the deadline.
- This will ensure work is completed with high quality without feeling rushed.