PROJECT PLAN – Software Engg.

Online Book Sales System

**Problem Statement:**

In this project, we aim to implement a computer based ‘**Online Book Sales System**’ which includes the sale and rental of both, hard and soft copies of various books.

**Difference:**

We aim to make it a one-of-a-kind system by introducing rentals of books based on the user’s preferences and subscriptions. Also, we aim to implement an additional service where in the user can access the website via his/her smartphone and receive notifications and alerts via SMS on his/her registered mobile number.

**Project Objectives:**

* To develop an online book management system.
* To develop a book sales, online reading and rental management system.
* To develop a system which works well with the interface in the smartphone environment and interacts with the database system.

**Feasibility:**

The project has a massive application in today’s environment. With the advent of technology, it will be much easier for everyone, especially those involved in the field of study, to get quick access to any information they require. People who might need to buy a book can do it easily and if they only require a particular book for a short amount of time, that will be arranged as well.

Most students who purchase books in today’s day and age, end up throwing them away at the end of their term of study. By renting the books or reading online/through soft copies instead, they can get access to all the books they need without generating all the trash. All of this, combined with the fact that renting the book will be at a nominal price when compared to actually purchasing one, means that the project has massive applications.

Apart from academics, the very same advantages are applicable to casual readers as well. They can rent their favourite novels, autobiographies and cookbooks without having to pay for them all. The book that would otherwise have gathered dust on someone’s shelf, is now useful for someone else!

We have 3 months to go about this and we have a well defined project plan. We can definitely aim to have a crack at this and complete the project in the mentioned timeframe.

**Process Model:**

We plan to use the incremental model of project development because it is the one which allows us maximum flexibility to change our specification and development plans with respect to changing requirements as and when required. We can develop intermediate models and then change things as required for the next iteration – accommodating the feedback and experience we gain from the previous versions.

**Deliverables:**

The services we aim to provide through our system:

* Purchase books and eBooks.
* Subscribe for online reading.
* Rent books to be delivered (for a set time period).
* Extend the return time for the book (on payment of the extra fee).
* Request for refund/replacement in cases of damaged copies.
* SMS alerts for the availability of the book based on search history.
* Rating and reviewing books and sellers are also applicable.
* Applying coupon codes for discounts.
* Logistic services like delivery and tracking of orders.

**Project Schedule:**

At first, we plan to have a basic system in place. The database system needs to be created first which will allow for the basic services like viewing/purchasing items etc. Later on, in the subsequent iterations, we will include more and more services based on the efficiency we have achieved in the previous versions. After the basic purchasing system, we will add the the read online section. This part comes later as it will involve the use of security to prevent users from downloading and accessing the entire book without having paid for the corresponding subscription plan.

Needless to say, we will need to have the logistic services on hand from the very beginning to deliver the items ordered in the phase-1 of our development.

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