

Project Overview

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Project background & business need/opportunity

The problem we are going to fix is the professor's/lab instructor's lack of knowledge regarding the accreditation process and what they should be submitting as well as the administrators' lack of organization and dynamic ability to control the accreditation process. Essentially, the accreditation process must be done correctly and efficiently so that the engineering program can be acceptable in terms of the value of a degree. As it currently is, there is an increased chance that accreditation standards could fall short due to hard to manage files and responsibilities. The business opportunity comes from U of R administrators involved in the engineering program's accreditation process as they currently assign classes' graduate attributes (pieces of the accreditation puzzle) through static excel sheets and other pdf files. They also receive class data via forms filled out by professors who often fill them out wrong or don't do them at all. The administrators hope to be presented with a solution that is easy to understand and gets the old job done in an organized and dynamic way.

Northstar & carryover customers

Our northstar customers are the U of R faculty of engineering & applied science administrators responsible for accreditation/data collection. This means that our customers (David and Gina) are our northstar customers as we believe their needs should be our primary focus. Our goal is to create dynamic processes and bring their excel worksheets/disorganized and hard to track data collection to a simple application that will suit their needs. Our carryover customers will be professors and lab instructors at the U of R as we will also be attempting to provide a platform for these users to organize data collection forms and other important accreditation files as well as submit their class data through easy to understand forms.

Project assumptions

As a team, we are assuming wordpress will be able to support our visions for our application. We aren't too familiar with wordpress other than some conversations in class so we are hoping the word press plugins will be able to handle our ideas for features. This includes being able to submit and receive forms, dynamically create and edit a visual graduate attribute builder (similar to visual schedule builder on UR self service), and store files/documents. We are

also assuming that we can accomplish our MVP given the limited time we have to create the project.

Project constraints

One of the project constraints we will be facing this semester is collaborating on the project online (given the current world situation and our team members being in different parts of the world). Having to find certain times in the day that account for the 14 hour time difference between our members will be difficult to work around but definitely not impossible. Another project constraint could be related to our resources. Because we are not too familiar with wordpress and the applications we will use to build our project, it is fairly hard to come up with a vision of what we want our project to be. This will cause us to have to adapt quickly and efficiently as we will most likely quickly learn that we can't afford to be tied down to a certain idea or feature. Another constraint could be customer satisfaction. Our goal is to make the accreditation process easier for our northstar customers and meeting with our customers once a week in the limited time we have may cause gaps in the satisfaction of the delivery of our product.