**University Catalog Management System Version 2.0**

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# Introduction

The School of Computing and Information Sciences, SCIS, offers a variety of degree programs with multiple tracks designed to help students reach their educational goals. Every department at Florida International University offers the same structure of degree programs. Currently advisers have to refer to a catalog for each degree path to properly advise students correctly. The University Catalog System will act as an online resource for advisers when they are assisting students.

The University Catalog Management System is a system designed to easily create and manage curriculum information through a centralized user friendly web application. By centralizing this resource online for the SCIS department, the university will be able to scale this system across multiple degree granting units which could will benefit many users at FIU.

The system allows the viewing of degree information divided by their appropriate sub section within a certain degree track. The degree track acts as a container for a degree program at FIU. The track consists of one or more groups, which contain one or more sets, which contain one or more courses. The viewing of a degree track is assisted through the use of a flowchart visualization function which builds a standard track chart displaying all the courses in their appropriate sets and groups for any degree. In addition this system allows advisers to create prospective catalogs for either approval or rejection by the administrator. By having this feature advisers are now permitted to partially contribute to the catalog system in attempt to improve degree structure at FIU.

# Hardware and Software Requirements.

In order to run the University Catalog Management System Version 2.0 from the perspective of an everyday user they will require the following:

* Any supported web browser. (i.e. Google Chrome, Mozilla FireFox, Safari, or Internet Explorer)
* A computer with an installed operating system.
* Connection to the internet.
* Some form of display screen.

# Installation and setup

Below are the steps that one would need to take in order to setup this web project.

**On a personal computer:**

1. Contact Professor Tim Downey at Florida International University for permission to gain access to the curriculum database and a copy of the source code.
2. Export database tables.
3. Import databases in a program such as MySQL workbench, or host them online.
4. Change the system configuration so that the system knows where to gain access to the tables.
5. Use a program such as XAMPP so an apache server can be run using local host.

**Hosted online:**

1. Fine a web hosting service that support the Yii Framework and PHP.
2. Get a domain name.
3. Contact Professor Tim Downey at Florida International University for permission to gain access to the curriculum database and a copy of the source code.
4. Export database tables.
5. Import databases to your online hosted databases.
6. Upload the source code to the appropriate file structure.

# Getting Started

Below we will see a quick first use guide to the UCMSV2.0:

How To View Flowchart

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. The first screen that users will see upon running the system. |  |
| 1. Then a user can search for a major, then select a track for that major as well as term information. Clicking the “Submit” button will load the catalog. |  |
| 1. Upon submitting the form in step 2 the following page will loaded allowing a quick snapshot of the courses in a particular track. If a user clicks on the “View Flowchart” the view in step 4 will be loaded which displays a visualization of the degree program. |  |
| 1. Either a flowchart model from the database will be loaded or a default visualization will be displayed. Depending on the user group different capabilities can be accomplished through this screen. To view the group view for this track either click on the course name or the group hyperlink.  * Students and regular users only have the ability to view the flowchart. They can also dynamically move groups around however their changes will not kept. * Advisers and administrators can dynamically move groups around and save their changes so it can replicated on a page refresh by clicking refresh. (A flowchart model must exists in the database) |  |
| 1. The group view displayed to the left displays sets nested inside their group container. Each set has a collection of courses. Click on a course or the set hyperlink will display the set view in step 6.  * The same principle for user groups explained in the track view (step4) applies to the group view. |  |
| 1. The set view displayed to the right displays courses nested inside their set. Clicking the course names or course hyperlinks will display more detail about that particular course.  * The same principle for user groups explained in the track view (step4) applies to the set view. |  |
| 1. The screen to the right displays a more in detail view of the courses. |  |

How to Create Prospective Catalog

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Login into the System with an advisor account. |  |
| 1. Click on Prospective button on the blue bar. You will be provide with a link to create a prospective catalog. |  |
| 1. Click on Create Prospective Catalog link. You will be provided with a form to enter information about the catalog you are about to create. Once you entered all the information, click on Create New Catalog button. |  |
| 1. Now you have a form that allows you to add and edit majors, minors, certificates, tracks, groups, set, and course. Please pay attention there are different sections for each. |  |
| 1. When creating a major, click on the + button on the majors section. You should be able to see a input rectangle where you need to enter the name for your New major. This step can be done for creating minor, certificate, track, group, set, and course in the specific section. |  |
| 1. Once entered the name for the major, and click add. New major form will pop up where you can enter the description for the major. In addition, you can add the tracks you want so by clicking on the + button or remove the ones that are not desired. Select the track you want to add from the dropdown one it appears. Finally click in save to save new major or cancel to cancel process. |  |
| 1. When editing a major, click on +edit button, it will display a dropdown list where you can select the major you want to edit. Once selected click on Edit. |  |
| 1. After clicking on edit, you will see current information for the major. Edit description and the track in it by adding or removing them from the major. Click on save. |  |
| 1. Add new minors, certificates, track, group, sets, and courses following similar steps shown on step 5 and 6. Remember minors, certificates, and tracks are based on groups, groups are based on sets, sets are based on courses, and course are just information. |  |
| 1. Edit minors, certificates, track, group, set, and course following similar steps shown on step 7 and 8. Remember minors, certificates, and tracks are based on groups, groups are based on sets, sets are based on courses, and course are just information to edit. |  |
| 1. Once done entering information. Click on Propose Prospective Catalog. |  |
| 1. Catalog must be proposed for the admin to review it now. |  |
| 1. In order to review prospective catalog, admin must log in. Click on Prospective in the blue bar. Admin must see this. |  |
| 1. A list of prospective catalogs will show up. In this case it is the Manual Catalog what we are looking for. |  |
| 1. After clicking on the name of the catalog. You will see the changes proposed on this catalog. Edited changes will show (Edited) and new addition will show (Add) |  |
| 1. After reviewing Admin must either click in either accept or reject button. |  |
| 1. If accepted the catalog will appear as active and you will be able to see it in home under term where accepted into the university. |  |

# Quick reference

* **What users can use the University Catalog Management System?**

All users groups are able to leverage the UCMS. However, only advisers and administrators can make the most of features such as creating prospective catalogs and altering degree structure through the flowchart visualization.

* **What user groups can view the flowchart visualizations?**

All users groups.

* **What user groups can edit the flowchart visualizations?**

Advisers and administrators. (NOTE: A flowchart model must exists in the database to allow edits based on position. If a chart does not exist the user will see a default flowchart view which is not editable).

* **What do the colors represent in the flowchart?**

The colors in the flowchart are used for demo purposes at this current stage. The pink/red color indicates groups, the green shows sets, and the grey represents courses.

* **What is the default flowchart visualization?**

The default view for flowchart represents a degree using the information already presented in the catalogs. An algorithm organizes groups and sets in order of their identification number, and the courses are organized via their number of pre-requisites.

# Accessing online help

There is currently no online help available for this project.

# References