

Comp.4630-Mobile App Development I – Fall 2021

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Short Report: News World App

1. Problem and Solution :

Nowadays, majority of people are able to access to internet via their smart phones. The issue surrounding the usage of internet is getting fake news from ethnical publishers. To solve this problem, our group come up with the idea of creating news mobile application which allows user to get the most reliable news around the world. On top of that, our group also want to create additional features for our news app such as chatting room for users' interaction. For example, users could share the news from our news app toward their friends and family.

2. News World App's Goal:

News World App's goal is to eliminate the fake news and provide the most accurate news to the users. The user can have choose which kind of news they want to read based on the categories listed on the app such as Sports news, Tech news, Business news, etc. Moreover, after reading any specific article, the user can then like/dislike an article and/or comment on that article and also share the article to their friends and family. In order to share the article, they have to either connect a social media account to our app, or they can create an account in our app. Lastly, we will have a chatting feature for our users to connect with their fellow news readers, they can chat, share articles, share pictures just like any other social media apps.

3. **The Approach:**

The approach which our group took to create this app was to find the news resources which was available online. After researched, we decided to use News API from NewsAPI.org to get all the up-to-date news data and display in our project. In addition, the main reason why our group chose this News API rather than other API available online was that NewsAPI.org offered a free-access to their server if only we created an account in their website. This was very beneficial for our group since we could create our project without paying additional cost.

Moreover, before started doing our project, we did test run of the News API by using POSTMAN. This was a free application that allowed our group to get call request to NewsAPI.org's server. The result was successful and we got what we needed to complete the project.

4. **Layout Design:**

Layout: We used Figma(web-drawn user interface) to design for our app's layout. (<https://www.figma.com/file/cONnOACWt4jMn0u1Q2zuOu/Proposal-App-Layout?node-id=0%3A1>). We designed 6 main layouts and many different small layouts for each main layouts. The following were the description of our screen:

Intro Screen: This will be the introduction for our app

Sign-in Screen: This is the screen where users can log in using their registered email and password or they can login using their Facebook / Google accounts.

Signup Screen: This is the screen where users can sign up for the account so they can log in.

Homepage Screen: This is the screen where we will display the news to our users, we have hot news display on the very top and all other news below hot news. Also we have different news categories that they can choose, we will filter based on user's preferences.

Chatting screen: This is the screen where users can chat with their friends.

Settings screen: This is the screen where users can change the app's layout based on their liking. We have dark/light themes for them to choose. We have accounts settings where users can edit their profiles/change password/privacy&security. We have text size where users can change the text font size either small/medium/big. Lastly, we have term of service for our app and app feedback where users can submit any problems related to the app.

5. **Completion Stage:**

Since we will take mobile app class as our sequence courses, we will take mobile app II next semester. As a result, for this semester, our goal was to complete the core part of our project which was the main-screen of our app. It was the core function of our app because it could get all news from NewsAPI.org and showed to the screen. In addition, the categories bar also worked as expected.

We will implement the log-in and chatting feature next semester in Mobile App II class.

6. **Detail instruction:**

We took user-friendly experience into our consideration. The mobile app is “self-explanatory”. The users could browsing through the app with ease.

7. Detail step-by-step instructions:

In our code base, we did include all possible comments for each functions and variables. It will be very convenience for other programmers or graders to verify our codes.