Sprint Schedule Summary

Task Dependencies

- During Sprint 2 of our CourseCompass project, several tasks had clear dependencies that affected scheduling:
    - Web Scraping for professor ratings had to be completed before any backend or frontend integration could proceed. This task was led by Gurjap and Sam and involved collecting data from RateMyProfessors.
    - The frontend layout for professor ratings, designed and implemented by Julia (with help from Rizikeshan), was dependent on both the backend API and the structure of the professor data.
    - UI testing, documentation, and system updates were handled after most core features were implemented.
        - Rizikeshan led testing efforts, while Sam and the rest of the team contributed to documentation.

Critical Path

- The critical path included:
    - Webscraping (Gurjap, Sam)
    - Backend API (Sam)
    - Frontend integration (Julia, Rizikeshan)
    - Testing and Documentation (Rizikeshan, Sam)

- Delays in any of these tasks would have impacted the sprint goal, particularly the professor rating feature.

Keeping the Sprint on Schedule

- To keep the sprint on track, we:
    - Held standups every three days to ensure accountability and unblock issues quickly.
    - Used Trello boards with deadlines and labels to improve visibility.
    - Centralized communication in Discord to avoid fragmented updates.
    - Assigned clear roles based on expertise to avoid duplicate work.

What Went Wrong and Lessons Learned

- Although most tasks were completed, we encountered challenges with RateMyProfessors blocking scraping attempts from the YorkU IP. This caused a delay in data collection and briefly paused frontend progress while we resolved it.

Lessons Learned:

- Start tasks with external dependencies (like scraping) earlier in the sprint.
- Have backup data sources or mock data ready in case of access issues.
- Better anticipate data integration challenges by involving frontend devs in early backend planning.

Conclusion

- The sprint was successful overall, with all major stories implemented and integrated. Our network diagram (included below in the PDF) helped visualize dependencies and allowed us to identify the critical path. Improved communication and early task planning were key factors in staying close to schedule.