

# **Spark**

## **Business Description**

### **Why (Problem / Motivation)**

Students often struggle to study efficiently because learning needs change rapidly throughout a semester. Many review material without knowing which topics matter most for future lessons or exams. They spend time rereading instead of practicing the right concepts, and most tools only store notes instead of helping students understand what to learn next. There is also no system that connects course structure, student behavior, and learning progress into one adaptive study experience. As a result, students waste time, fall behind, or memorize the wrong material.

Spark's mission is to help students learn smarter by combining adaptive studying, AI-generated practice, and topic-focused guidance. Spark focuses on real understanding by showing students where to spend time, what concepts will appear later, and how to strengthen weak areas. It empowers users to:

- identify important topics automatically
- generate flashcards and custom practice questions
- receive guidance on what to study next
- build long-term retention through targeted repetition

### **Who (Users / Stakeholders)**

#### **Primary Users**

- Students taking concept-heavy or fast-paced courses
- Learners preparing for quizzes, midterms, and cumulative exams
- Students who need structured guidance rather than unorganized notes

#### **Secondary Users**

- Educators who want insight into classwide learning challenges
- Tutoring centers supporting personalized study plans
- Academic programs seeking adaptive learning enhancements

#### **User Needs & Pain Points**

- Difficulty identifying which topics matter most
- Lack of personalized guidance on what to study next
- No system that connects course material to future concepts
- Ineffective review methods that waste time

## Stakeholder Goals

- Users want clarity, direction, and meaningful AI support
- Recommendations must feel accurate, helpful, and aligned with course content

## What (System Functionality)

Spark is an AI-enhanced learning and study intelligence platform built around adaptive practice, concept tracking, and student behavior analysis. Its core functionalities include:

### Course & Topic Setup

Students upload or enter course materials, units, and key topics.

### Adaptive Concept Identification

- Detects foundational concepts within course materials
- Highlights which topics appear most often or support future lessons

### AI-Generated Flashcards & Practice

- Creates personalized flashcards from notes, slides, or textbooks
- Generates quizzes and free-response questions
- Offers explanations to strengthen understanding

### Next-Step Study Recommendations

- Suggests what students should learn or review next
- Prioritizes topics that support future assignments or exams
- Identifies knowledge gaps based on past responses

### Learning Analytics Dashboard

- Tracks topic mastery over time
- Shows weak areas, trends, and predicted performance
- Provides insights based on study behavior

### Real-Time Feedback

- Provides instant correction and reasoning
- Encourages reflection on mistakes and learning habits

## Where (Platforms / Context)

### Platforms

- Web App for full study planning, analytics, and AI-generated content

- Mobile App for flashcards, quick practice, and on-the-go study recommendations

#### Contexts of Use

- Before quizzes, daily study sessions, or exam prep
- When reviewing lecture content or textbook chapters
- When identifying learning gaps or planning a study schedule

#### **How (Operations / Flow / UX)**

##### Step 1: Course Setup

- User uploads notes, slides, or course topics
- Spark identifies foundational and interconnected concepts

##### Step 2: Learning Intake

- Students review AI-generated flashcards and questions
- System tracks responses, patterns, and difficulty levels

##### Step 3: Adaptive Guidance

- Spark analyzes performance and predicts weak areas
- Suggests what to study next for optimal retention

##### Step 4: Review & Reflection

- Dashboard displays mastery levels, progress, and topic understanding
- Students receive clear explanations and targeted feedback

#### Design Principles

- Simple, visual interface that makes studying less overwhelming
- Transparent logic behind AI recommendations
- Adaptive support that enhances, not replaces, student learning decisions

#### Impact / Vision

Spark helps students focus on the material that truly matters, improving comprehension and retention. By transforming notes into dynamic practice tools and guiding learners through connected concepts, Spark turns studying into a structured, personalized experience. The system helps students build confidence, manage workloads, and stay ahead of course demands.

Spark also supports long-term academic success by teaching students how concepts relate and how spaced review improves memory. As the system grows, it becomes a more accurate learning companion and reducing study time while increasing mastery.

### **Long-Term Vision**

Spark evolves into a fully adaptive academic learning partner. Over time, it learns each student's habits, strengths, and weak areas. The system becomes increasingly precise in forecasting which concepts need reinforcement, predicting exam readiness, and generating personalized learning paths. Its future is a platform that helps every student study with clarity, efficiency, and long-term mastery.