CS 2300 Project 3 Rationale

Database
DB Name: 'info230_SP16_ldpsp16'
Username: 'ldp54sp16'
Password: 'spring16'

Admin User
Username: ldp54
Password: mypassword

Aesthetic design choices
Color
Most of the site is black and white to let the photos have more emphasis. The background has small, moving dots to help engage the user and bring more color to the page. Navigation is done through the navigation bar (in which links change depending on the user).

Layout
The site is organized into sections: Albums, Search, Add Image, Add Album, Delete, Edit, and Login. Add Image and Add Album was made into separate pages so that it would be more clear for the user. A table view is used repeatedly throughout the side (Edit page, and Albums page) to keep the layout consistent.

Navigation
Navigation was done as a fix side bar. The active page is underlined in the nav bar to give indication to the user. Again, links change depending on the user.

Theme
The overall theme was suppose to be clean and minimal so that photos could be the focus. The dots were added to make the site more inviting/engaging.

Functionality Design Choices
Page Implementation
The page's header, navigation bar, and footer are generated from php functions. There are checks of whether the admin is logged in or not to decide which navigation bar to display. Displaying images and albums are done through php functions as well to keep the code more organized. Images are displayed in a table view so that the user can see everything clearly. When you hover over a photo, a small description appears with the image source, title, and caption to give an overview of the photo. Users can also click on the photo to get a larger, more clear description of the photo information.

Functionality
The edit page was implemented using ajax so that the user can edit multiple photos and albums at once without refreshing the page. To view all changes the user must refresh the page.

Indication of success is given at the button of the page whenever a user submits a change. Search was implemented to search over multiple fields and partial fields (Photo title, Album Name, and Caption). Resulting matches are displayed below or feedback is given that there were no matches. Input was checked for malicious and incorrect input using php functions.

Improvements from Milestone Feedback

In the previous feedback, we needed to check for duplicate album and photo names. I made the keys in my SQL table for album and photo names have a UNIQUE constraint. Additionally, I check for duplicates before attempting to insert the new photo by checking what "SELECT * FROM Photos WHERE pTitle = '$title'" returns (and analogously for albums). Album photos are displayed in the edit page.

WOW Features
- The site support both file and URL uploads for images on the Add Image page.
- The editing page was done in all ajax.
- JQuery was used to make the site more interactive (hovering over photos)
- Paper.js was used to slightly simulate space to motivate users explore the site and encourage engagement. Note, the animation stops when the page is not active to conserve battery/CPU usage.