**Personal Reflection Statement (1000 words)**

**Name:** Matthew Fish

**Group:** 26

Lessons Learned

During the project so far, I have gained experience on how to collaborate effectively within a team on a building an application. This is my first time working on designing and developing an application with others, so it has been an eye-opening learning opportunity. I have developed essential skills in communication, problem-solving, and teamwork. I have learned how to express my ideas clearly while remaining open to others input, ensuring that everyone is satisfied with the direction we are taking. Additionally, working with a client has been a new experience for me, and it has taught me how to understand their needs, manage-expectations, and ensure that each task aligns with their vision. This project has not only improved my technical skills but has also enhance my ability to work collaboratively and communicate effectively with clients.

The hands- on experience of designing and developing an application has also deepened my technical expertise. I have acquired a better understanding of the tools and technologies involved in application development. I also gained an appreciation for the importance of documentation and task management, as seen in sprint 4 when finalizing the project plan.

Working on this project has also allowed me to recognise the importance of clear communication in all stages of the development. This extends not only to the client interactions but also within the team and with the stakeholders. Regular meetings and updates were crucial to keeping everyone aligned, and I learned how to contribute more effectively in group settings, especially when presenting ideas or concerns.

I have also learned the significance of time management and the need to prioritise tasks effectively. During busy sprints, it became clear how important it is to balance project goals with personal time constraints. This has taught me how to manage my time more efficiently, both within a team context and for my own personal development.

Contributions to the Project

Sprint 1: I contributed to the development of initial concept designs for the application pages. These initial designs were rough sketches drawn on paper, which served as the foundation for creating more refined digital designs later on. This early stage allowed the team to conceptualize the look and feel of the app.

Sprint 2: I took the concept designs and transformed them into detailed, low-fidelity Figma designs for the application pages. This process was critical for visualizing the user interface and understanding how users would interact with the app. It also gave the team a clearer sense of navigation flow and feature layout, helping us think about potential design challenges.

Sprint 3: Building upon the Figma designs, I worked on the front-end UI development using android studio. I successfully converted the design prototypes into functional UI pages. There were only minimal adjustments required for future back-end integration, but the primary focus was on creating a seamless and responsive front-end.

Sprint 4: I played a key role in finalizing the project plan, ensuring that all tasks had been completed and our timelines were achievable. This involved coordinating with the team to ensure that all deliverables were completed on time, updating the project timeline, and making sure the overall plan was well-organized and aligned with the teams progress.

Personal Growth

This project has significantly boosted my confidence, especially in working with clients and within a team environment. Initially I was unaware of how to handle client interactions, but through consistent communication and feedback sessions, I have become much more comfortable with managing client interactions.

In terms of technical growth, working on the front-end UI design and development has been invaluable. I have deepened my understanding of tools like Android Studio and Figma, refining my skills in both design and development. The hands- on experience of converting Figma designs into functional code has provided me a stronger grasp of the entire app development process.

This experience has also sharpened my awareness of industry workflows. By working in a team, adhering to deadlines, and collaborating with my team and clients, I have gained insight into the importance of structuring work, documenting progress and maintaining organized task management. As a result, I now feel more equipped and prepared for future challenges in the second semester of the project, knowing that I can not only handle the technical aspects of project but also the communication and collaboration required for success.

Improvements for semester 2

Looking ahead for semester 2, I plan to further develop my technical capabilities that I have developed in the first semester, focusing on technical and interpersonal growth. One are that I plan to explore more deeply is security. I am interested in exploring security protocols and how they integrate into app development, as this is a crucial area I want to pursue in my future career, especially in cyber security. I plan to incorporate the security features into the app to ensure that we are developing a product, not only functional, but also secure and reliable.

Additionally, I hope to gain hands-on experience with backend development and the integration of front-end and back-end systems. I also plan to focus on improving my communication with both the team and the client to ensure smoother collaboration and workflow throughout the next phase of the project. By focussing on these areas of improvement, I believe I will be better equipped to tackle more complex tasks and contribute to the team’s success in semester 2.

Appendix - Evidence

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| **Significant Event Mentioned** | **Git Commit Hash/ Trello Card (deck and card)/ Meeting Minutes (date and point)** |
| *Concept Designs* | *Sprint 1 – Concept Designs*  *Minutes on 01/11/24*  *Completed on Paper* |
| *Figma Designs* | *Sprint 2 – Figma Designs*  *Minutes on 17/11/24*  *Date: 11/11/24, Git Commit Hash: 27d7ba5, eb2f4a3*  *Date: 18/11/24, Git Commit Hash: 453647c* |
| *Front end UI* | *Sprint 3 – Build Front End UI: Android Studio*  *Minutes on 02/12/24 – Section “Change in UI”*  *Date: 02/12/24 Git Commit Hash: 4c3179b*  *Date: 08/12/24 Git Commit Hash: 8cecd48, 0760019*  *Date: 16/12/24 Git Commit Hash: 25a2d12* |
| *Project Plan* | *Sprint 4 – Finalise Project Plan*  *Minutes on 16/12/24*  *Date: 08/12/24 Git Commit Hash: ba4c7c0*  *Date: 13/12/24 Git Commit Hash: 55c35a3* |