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Chapter 1

Introduction

A discussion forum is a web application that provides a virtual environment supporting discussion and debate among student peers, as well as between teacher and student without temporal or geographical barriers. The asynchronous nature of discussion forums, meaning that all participants are not required to be present or logged on at the same moment in time, allows students to work at times and places of their own choice, providing more flexibility in scheduling for the students. Discussion forums also extend student–teacher interactions allowing academic dialogues and social interactions to occur outside of a traditional classroom. These advantages allow discussion forums to supplement or even totally replace face-to-face interaction, particularly in large-sized courses and web-based courses. [1].

Understanding this need, CUET Forum is developed as a dedicated web-based community-driven platform. It serves as a virtual meeting point for students, faculty, and enthusiasts within the CUET community. The platform enables users to engage in topic-based conversations, explore categorized content, and participate in forum discussions. The interface is intuitive and user-friendly, with distinct sections for navigating topics, viewing forum statistics, and interacting with other users. The forum also features a robust admin panel that allows administrators to manage topics, categories, and user interactions effectively. With a focus on simplicity and functionality, the CUET Forum ensures seamless communication within the academic community while providing an accessible interface for both desktop and mobile users. Through this project, we aim to build a cohesive environment that supports academic growth, peer collaboration, and community engagement within CUET.

1.1 Features

1.1.1 Home Page

The main interface of the platform that introduces users to the forum and provides easy navigation.

1.1.2 Registration Page

Allows new users to register by providing their email address and password, ensuring secure access to the forum.

1.1.3 Login Page

Enables registered users to log in using their credentials to access the platform's features according to their roles.

1.1.4 User Panel

An interface designed for registered users, providing access to functionalities like creating topics, replying to discussions, and managing their profiles.

1.1.5 Admin Panel

An interface for administrators to manage the forum effectively. It includes:

- A content management bar for handling unnecessary topics.
- Options to delete irrelevant replies.
- Facilities for adding new categories or updating existing ones.

1.1.6 Topic Creation Section

A section where users can create new topics for discussion, fostering community engagement and intellectual exchange.

1.1.7 Categories

Allows for organising topics into various categories as needed, making it easier for users to navigate and find relevant discussions.

1.1.8 Statistics

Displays real-time data, such as the number of active users and the number of topics created, providing insights into the platform's usage and engagement levels.

1.2 Project Overview

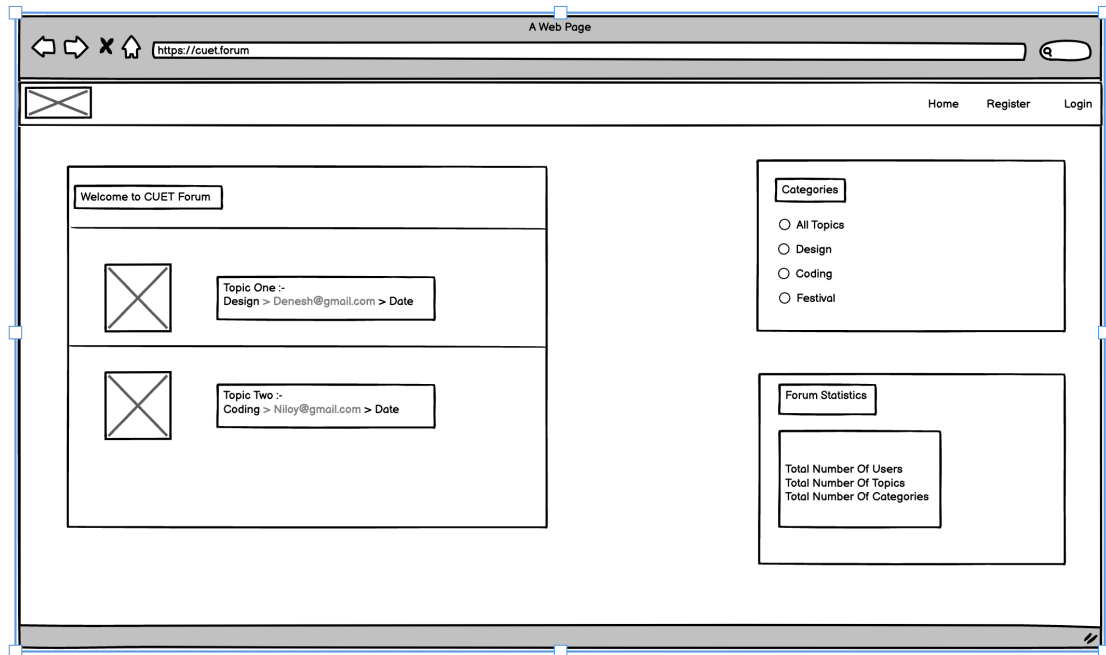


Figure 1.1: Opening Page

- The content bar enables administrators to manage unnecessary topics.
- Administrators can delete unnecessary replies.
- New categories can be added or existing ones updated by administrators.

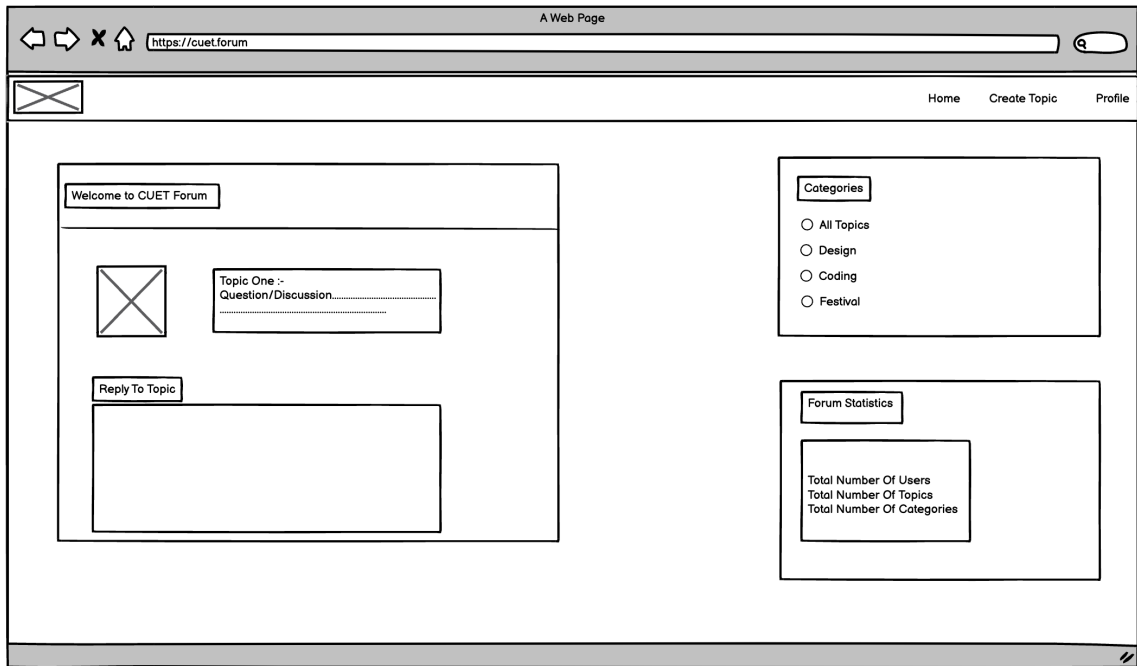


Figure 1.2: Topic and Reply Section

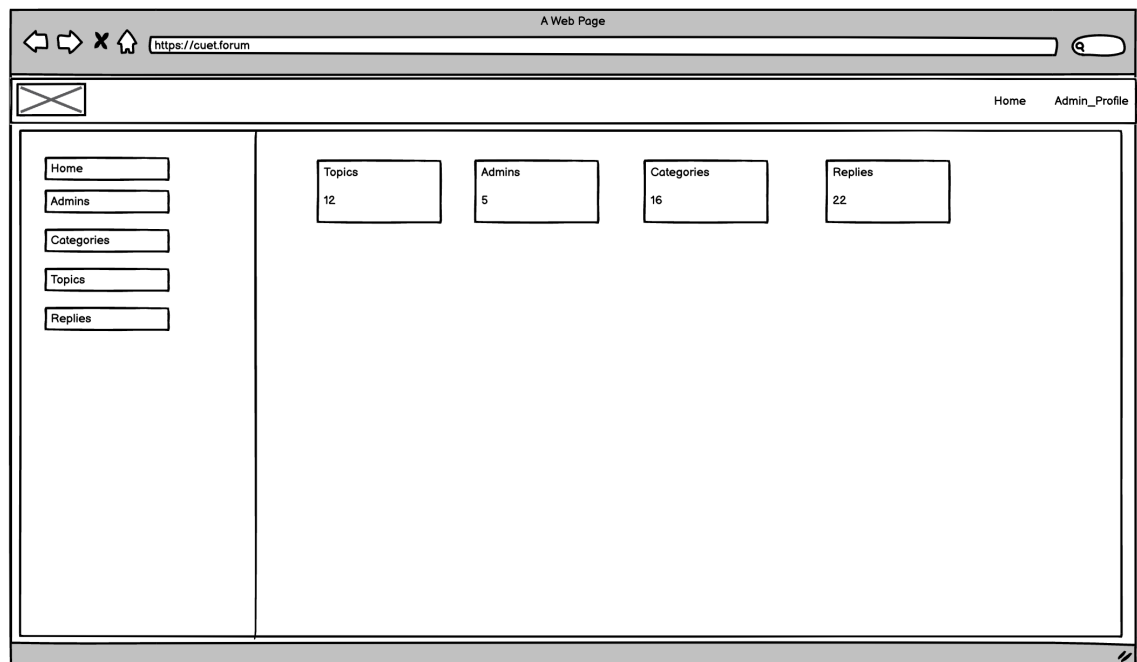


Figure 1.3: Admin Panel

Bibliography

- [1] C. K. Cheng, D. E. Paré, L.-M. Collimore, and S. Joordens, “Assessing the effectiveness of a voluntary online discussion forum on improving students’ course performance,” *Computers Education*, vol. 56, no. 1, pp. 253–261, 2011. Serious Games.