

Trism – A Catalogue of Educational Materials

Course: CSE299 – Junior Design

Section: 17

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Group 03

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Github Repository: <https://github.com/Namerlight/SU19CSE299S17G03NSU>

**Project Idea**

**The Problem -** There is a huge amount of educational resources and material available online nowadays. These materials can range from books and e-books, to videos and online courses. When looking for materials to learn about a topic, students have to spend a lot of time searching in a lot of different places on the web to get relevant resources. They also can’t tell how good that resource is without spending even more time researching it.

Another issue is when educators hand out course materials and supplementary resources, they have to search through the web each time. They can always store a local copy of a list in a text file or something, but this copy needs to be kept updated and is not a very efficient solution. This also applies for people on online forums recommending educational materials to others looking for help.

**The Solution** - The solution is a web app that contains a list of these instructional materials. Since this list is hosted online, anyone could access it from any device. This would allow, for instance, teachers to make the list just once, and then share it students whenever necessary. Storing the list online also allows us to aggregate information and feedback about a particular resource.

The name of the web app, *Trism*, was chosen from mythological sources. In Greco-Egyptian mythology, Hermes *Trism*egistus was considered the principal deity of knowledge.

**Features**

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| Creating a User Account or using a preexisting Google Account. | * Users can create a new account for use on the website, or log in with their Google account. * When Logged in, users will be able to view a profile page, change their email and password |
| Creating and Storing Multiple Lists per User | * Users can create new lists by selecting “Create New List” from the home page while logged in, or from their profile page. * Users can set lists as public or private. Private lists can only be viewed by the creator when the creator is logged in. * Lists can be populated with entries by selecting the type of entry (book, video, course, other) at the bottom and fill in a popup box with the necessary details. |
| Aggregating Data from List Entries | * When a link is placed in the list, information such as title, previews, etc. is automatically grabbed and placed accordingly |
| Overall Library of items with tagging and searching functions. | * When a user enters a list item, if that item is not in the library it is added to an overall library. * Overall library is divided into categories. When entering a new item in a personal list, a user can add an item already existing in the library. * The library can be opened from the home page. Items in the library can be sorted and filtered. |
| Reviewing lists and particular entries in the library. | * If a user is logged in, they may add reviews and ratings to an item in the library. * A user can also add a rating to a particular list * A user can view all their ratings from their profile. |
| Suggestions for Users based on their interests | * A user can check for recommendations based on the items in their list and tags and entries they have searched recently. |

**Technology**

For the Front-End – HTML5, CSS and JavaScript will be utilized for designing the visuals of the website. For CSS, Materialize will be used as a framework.

For the Back-End– Databases, Web Hosting, APIs and any other necessary back-end functions will be managed through JavaScript, using Google Firebase.

**Business Plan**

As we expect there to be a lot of traffic from students of all levels, educators, and nearly everyone who goes on the internet for academic and learning purposes, monetizing the website through advertisements should be straightforward. High traffic would ensure a relatively high number of views and clicks, making it an attractive prospect for those looking to sponsor the website or advertise on it.

Firebase operates on a “pay for what you use” plan. If the website generates sufficient traffic, the Free plan firebase offers may be insufficient. Therefore, users will have a limit on the number of lists they can use. A premium membership feature could be offered. Premium users would be able to remove this limitation, as well as get a few bonuses such as no advertisements and possible free goodies from any sponsors.