

Team Members and Project Selection

Pre-Existing Technical/Design Backgrounds:

Taylor Brown - Processing, Graphic Design, Geographic Information Systems, gaining experience with Git and GitHub.

Tyler Monaghan - Processing, worked with Taylor last semester to wireframe and create a prototype Android app including a functional UI and incorporating 360-degree photography. Experienced with instructional design for high school students (in-person and digitally via Google Classroom).

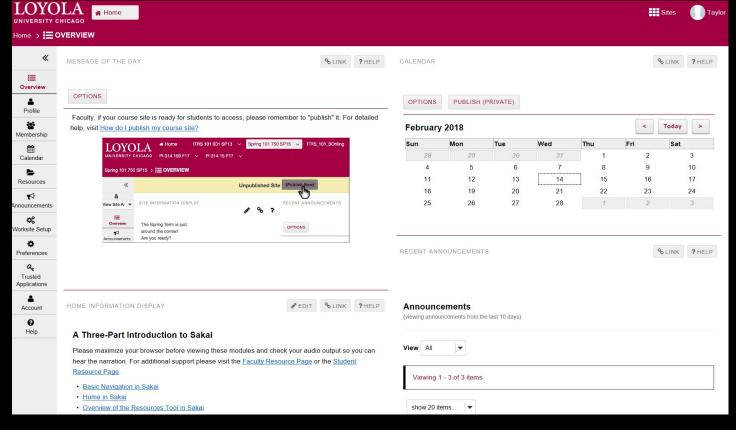
Rebecca Parker - HTML, CSS, Basic Javascript, Basic SVG, Introduction Java, Introduction Python, Extensive XML and XML processing (XSLT, XQuery, XPath), Extensive Git and GitHub use, Experience Wireframing

Ashley Walcott - HTML, CSS, XML, Java/JSP (mid-level), ColdFusion (mid-level), JavaScript, SQL/Oracle/MSSQL, systems analysis, Photoshop (slightly above intro-level), some college classes in art and design

Our project selection:

SAKAI

Strengths of the Sakai Interface



- Not cluttered up with images; information contrasts well with chosen background colors.
- Built all in HTML (not Flash or whatever) (I think).
- Consistent branding and menu bar on every page.

Things We'd Like to Improve in Sakai's Interface

- It's visually boring, so...
 - It's not clear where to focus your attention.
 - Using it involves a lot of reading of lists.
 - Could improve this with an eye toward universal design (esp with color usage).
- It requires a lot of trial and error to find what you need.
- Like tools should be grouped together, such as:
 - "Email, forums, and blogs" could be grouped under "communication."
 - The Gradebook and Assignments could be under "grading" tab or something similar.
- Reorganizing the homepage into a "feed" similar to a social media page could be helpful because it will already feel familiar.

Proposed Plan Through Spring Break:

- Find or reverse-engineer a sitemap to understand full functionality and org structure of Sakai.
- Investigate Sakai's development and design process by learning about the company and previous release versions.
- Research other online learning software solutions to try to determine the state of the field and determine best practices (Blackboard was the previous vendor, FWIW).
- Look through the interfaces we like and compare each one with the sitemap we construct to see which might serve as a model for our proposed remediation.

Questions?

