

ITWS 4500 Project Proposal  
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**Project Summary:**

This website will be designed to act as your personal guide to authentic local culture. It combines location-based recommendations with music discovery in one convenient application. Think of it as a cultural compass that helps you navigate beyond typical tourist spots to find genuine local experiences. Whether you're interested in discovering the indie music scene in Barcelona's hidden venues, stumbling upon poetry readings in Brooklyn's tucked-away cafes, or finding authentic food spots in Tokyo's back alleys, the platform brings it all together in one place.

At its base, it's a cultural discovery tool that shows you what's happening in any location through a local lens. The music integration improves the local immersion; you can explore playlists tied to specific neighborhoods or venues while browsing recommendations. While the music features are the primary display, they are optional, letting users focus on whatever aspects of local culture interest them most. The platform is updated with real-time events and new recommendations from its users. The focus is on the places, events, and culture.

**Users:**

Our platform serves 5 major distinct user categories. Local culture enthusiasts, who actively document and share their neighborhood's authentic experiences, contributing detailed knowledge about evolving cultural scenes and underground movements. Travelers rely on the platform to access location-specific cultural information that helps them experience cities more

authentically, particularly during short visits when efficient discovery is crucial. Music discoverers use the platform as a geographical exploration tool, uncovering how music scenes vary by location and finding more obscure local sounds. Venue owners and cultural spaces could leverage the platform to increase visibility and attract a wider audience, while also connecting with other cultural organizations for collaborative events. Content creators and curators would also be an important role by synthesizing local knowledge into compelling narratives and maintaining updated cultural guides that reflect real-time changes in the community.

### **Stakeholders:**

The platform would be supported by several key stakeholder groups that ensure its functionality and growth. The development team would create and maintain the technology to develop a useful and desirable web application. Music streaming services, provide essential data and functionality that allow for the platform's music discovery capabilities. Local businesses and cultural institutions contribute essential real-world spaces and experiences while gaining increased visibility and interaction with potential customers. Moderators ensure the content's quality and authenticity. Each stakeholder's involvement enhances the platform's value proposition while advancing their own objectives in cultural preservation and promotion.

### **Technologies:**

For this project, we are planning to use Node.js with Express.js for the backend. This will be used to interact with a database built with MongoDB to serve our users a frontend built with HTML, CSS, and static Javascript. We will also use the Spotify API in order for our users to construct and share their playlist. Finally, we will use an API to generate maps based off of our users' locations.

**Functional:**

Enable users to search for cities and access authentic local cultural recommendations, including hidden gems, unique events, and notable destinations contributed by the community. Integrate with the Spotify API to provide playlists of the top 100 local songs for each location, enhancing cultural immersion. Offer an intuitive API and frontend that serve as a personalized guide to local culture and music discovery.

**Non-Functional:**

Provide a visually engaging and user-friendly experience for exploring cultural content and music. Ensure fast API response times for retrieving playlists, recommendations, and user-contributed content. Design the platform to scale as more users contribute recommendations and engage with real-time updates on cultural events.

**Estimated Project Schedule:**

The majority of our project will be organized by a series of roughly month long sprints. Within these sprints we will have at least two scrum meetings per week. We started the week of January 12th, working on what we want for our project and working towards the project proposal on January 24th. From here on we will have a month long sprints worth till we get to our midterm project presentation on February 25th. After this midterm presentation we can have another sprint, and then as we will be towards the end of the following sprint, we will arrive at the final presentations on either April 15th, 18th, or 22nd.

## Design Decisions:

The design decisions for Local Jam focus on simplicity and usability. The landing page provides a clear introduction with quick access to "Sign Up" and "Login" options. The account creation and login pages are straightforward, with easy-to-fill fields and helpful links like password recovery and account creation. The search page adds an interactive element with a map and playlist previews, making the platform engaging and functional. Overall, the design ensures a clean, user-friendly experience while leaving room for future features.

## Wireframe:



WWW.LOCALJAM.COM/NEWACCOUNT

LOGO

LOGIN/SIGN UP

Create New Account

[Already Registered? Login](#)

NAME

John Doe


EMAIL

hello@reallygreatsite.com

PASSWORD

\*\*\*\*\*

COUNTRY CODE

▼

PHONE NUMBER

Join Now

WWW.LOCALJAM.COM/LOGIN

LOGO

LOGIN/SIGN UP

Login

[Don't Have a Account? Create New Account](#)

EMAIL

hello@reallygreatsite.com

PASSWORD

\*\*\*\*\*

[Forgot Password?](#)

Login

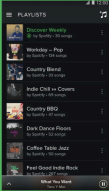
WWW.LOCALJAM.COM/SEARCH

LOGO

LOGIN/SIGN UP

Search





INFORMATION....

## Current Site Map:

### 1. Landing Page (/landingpage)

- **Description:** Brief concept introduction
- **Options:**
  - Sign Up → Links to /newaccount.
  - Login → Links to /login.

### 2. Create New Account (/newaccount)

- **Fields**
  - Name
  - Email
  - Password
  - Country Code
  - Phone Number
- **Buttons:**
  - Already registered? → Links to /login.

### 3. Login Page (/login)

- **Fields**
  - Email
  - Password
- **Buttons**
  - Login
- **Links**
  - Don't have an account? → Links to /newaccount
  - Forgot Password? → (To be added, e.g., /forgotpassword).

### 4. Search Page (/search)

- **Features:**
  - Search functionality for locations or playlists
  - Displays:
    - Interactive map with markers
    - Playlist previews
  - Additional Information Section