**CHAPTER I**

**Introduction**

**1.1 Overview of the Current State of Technology**

Websites nowadays set the standard of the way we live. May it be socially, business related stuff, communication, entertainment, source of information or even a “battle field” for some unfortunate events due to its misuse, name it, websites have it. And because it’s booming this 21st century companies, institutions or even individuals own at least one website.

As for a school website, contents are commonly school-related events, announcements, display of their curricula and courses, display of their teaching staff and others. A lot of school insert tutorials and post lectures into their websites to give their students another shot at learning if they happen to miss a certain topic. Educators are hitting two birds with one stone. First they help students by presenting bits and pieces they need the most. Second is, they give students another good use of the technology plus they also benefit from it.

An online classroom is a virtual space where teaching and learning takes place though both students and teachers are far from each other (Lowa public Television, 2016). Another factor of why online classrooms are in demand aside from the fact that it is “cool” or “trendy”, is that you can assimilate wisdom at your own comfort while you do things you like or things you need to do. It gives another degree of enthusiasm to anybody, and to those who happen to have some issues with the good-old-fashioned learning at school.

Students log in into a school website to communicate with classmates and instructors, retrieve course materials, complete assignments and tests and participate in discussions. According to Yaschin (2014), web-based education technology has seen both promising and lackluster results in terms of adoption and course completion rates; however, online education proponents assure us that the traditional classroom is in the cusp of dramatic change. In addition, according to Wood (2005), most take an online class or two to obtain access to classes that are not available at their local school, gain a competitive edge when preparing for college, or accommodate a jammed schedule. A few, though, are so convinced of the efficiency of online instruction that they’ve abandoned traditional schools altogether.

Since the Western Mindanao State University (WMSU) Department of Computer Science will be sundered from the College of Engineering and Technology due to some reasons. The Institute of Computer Studies will arise and will be added to the list of academic units of Western Mindanao State University, the researchers/developers came up with the idea of developing a website exclusively for the WMSU- Institute of Computer Studies (ICS) community’s use since there is no existing system yet. The website will let the students of WMSU-ICS be updated and we’ll also include the student-teacher group chat by class for some inquiries students might have to their teacher or the subject itself.

The WMSU-ICS website caters the online classroom, upload and download of educational files and posting of lectures, it will also stand as a bridge of communication between vital demographic groups such as the teachers, admin and students

**1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Considering that the WMSU-ICS does not have a website the following are the common problems that the researchers have researched and observed that the Institute faces:

* Cancellations of classes and posting of announcements and events/activities
  + The WMSU-ICS does not have a medium or a website that can inform the institute of these important information.
* List of teachers
  + The WMSU-ICS students, especially the freshmen, shifters and transferees) do not actually know all of the teachers of the institute, or they happen to forget their professor’s name.
* Alternative learning
  + The WMSU-ICS does not have another approach that can let their teachers share lectures, post home works, etc.
* Communication on ICS
  + There is a big need that the institute should have another way of communication especially if they have some clarification of some matter that may concern the institute

**1.3 Research Objective**

**1.3.1 General Objective**

The main objective of this research is to design and develop a website for the utilization of WMSU-ICS that caters mainly an online classroom.

**1.3.2 Specific Objectives**

Specifically this research is to:

* Design a website that has a user-friendly design.
* Develop a website that can inform the ICS community about their activities, events and urgent announcements.
* Enable teachers to posts lectures, home works, and activities with the use of the online classroom.
* Provide another means of communication with the essential users (students and teachers).
* Develop a website that will help give students another way of acquiring knowledge of their lectures or topics.

**1.4 Scope and Limitations**

This research focuses on the development of the WMSU-ICS website. It caters the online classroom without the grading system, faculty loading without conflict checking, uploading and downloading of educational materials, a group chat (by class only)direct message to admin(privately). Educational materials are photo and document files only.

**1.5 Significance of the Research**

**ICS Administration**

* It serve as a medium of communication to all stakeholders.

**Faculty**

* This will help the teachers in creating another way of reaching out to each students of WMSU-ICS. They can upload lectures, assignments, they can also have a group communication etc. They can communicate with the students wherever they are.

**Students**

* This will help the students to know the happenings in or outside the WMSU-ICS community. The student can also utilize the online classroom so they can learn lectures/lessons or topics while having fun whenever, wherever.

**Researchers**

* Aside from the fact that with this study the researchers can enhance more of their skills on web development, learn other helpful techniques that will make the developmentl more convenient and high quality, and this study can also serve as a reference to future studies.