

# Assignment 2:

## Component 1

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Date: November 14, 2017

Course: EECS 3461

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# Preface

Students at York University have dealt with a multitude of frustrating experiences while trying to enroll into courses each year. Some of the typical frustrations include a need for centralized data at the main page and a lack of organization whenever students use the Registration Enrollment Module (REM). For instance, it should be the case that enrollment access times are provided on the main page to inform students of whether they are able to enrol or not because this is essential information. Students instead are required to go through multiple intermediary steps in order to access such a small, yet vital piece of information. The lack of real-time information makes for a cumbersome experience, especially when planning out one's schedule. For these reasons, York students would benefit from an improved course enrollment system which would minimize the workload required from students, and streamline the process by improving accessibility. This will provide users with a simplified way of enrolling into courses. Students will have one less thing to worry about while in university.

## Flaws with the current design

- 1) Lack of information at the right place
  - At the moment, students must search through external pages for bits of information to help make an informed decision with regards to courses (e.g. course prerequisites, course information)
  - Students are only notified about whether they can enrol into courses or not upon selecting the term they wish to enrol in
  - There is no way of knowing how many spots are available. If a student tries to add a course that is full, the module says the course is full after the user clicks enrol. This makes for a frustrated user experience.
- 2) Redundant UI elements
  - Current design has a "Transfer a Course" button and an "Exchange a Course" button.
  - Some icons, such as the red triangle, are redundant as they provide no intuitive function. In general, some UI elements seem interactive, when in reality they are not.

- 3) Inefficiency of completing simple tasks
- Managing the addition, removal, and exchange of a course involves going through multiple pages (e.g. one to input a course code, one to confirm, and one to conclude whether the procedure was a success or not)

## Proposed Solution

The ultimate goal of this project is to be able to provide users with a simple and informative way to manage their courses. This can be achieved by proposing the following changes:

1. Real-time information upon inputting data (e.g such as providing the number of available seats and the courses a user is eligible to enroll in based on prerequisites).
2. Generalizing specific functions and condensing UI elements (e.g having a “remove” button next to each course text)
3. Provide users with critical information all in one place as it streamlines the process (e.g once a user enters a course code, all the relevant course information is displayed, allowing the user to pick whichever section/lab/tutorials he or she wishes; thereby removing the Course Catalog).
4. Redesign some of the UI elements (e.g some elements that need a separate window can be incorporated into a drop-down list)

By undertaking this task, one hopes to provide users a simple yet effective way to manage their courses and allow them to make an informed decision faster; thus providing a more satisfying user experience.