

Social Media Journal App

Project Sponsored By:

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Problem Statement

Written by:

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Abstract:

The Social Media Journal App project seeks to develop a social media app not unlike Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Our group will develop fill the niche that exists today where social media can only capture a snippet of your day. The Social Media Journal App will allow consumers to express their everyday life in the form of journals that will allow for extended word counts and embedded photos.

This project will develop from the ground up starting with the database and ending with the graphic design and UI development for the app. The Social Media Journal App will be a project that by the end of the year we will have a finished project or a project that we will hopefully continue outside of class.

Problem Definition

In the world filled with social media and entertainment, lives are posted online 140 characters and a picture at a time. No one social media is a complete solution for every person and thus leaves some without a way to express themselves online.

Problem Description

Other than a Facebook post, there is no way to express yourself online in an elongated way. Instagram only allows for short captions with each photo. Every popular social media app has its perks but they do not fill the niche for every person. The challenge of this project is to create a full social media network that will fill one of those niches and allow another avenue for the online community to express themselves. This social media app has to look and feel like a welcome place that people can come and feel comfortable telling their stories and entries. The next problem is that the Social Media Journal App group will have to make sure the back end is up to specs for the front UI to be able to encourage open sharing about people's lives and adventures. To do this, the project will need to develop from the ground up from the database and networking and all the way through security and up to the UI. The app will need to be innovative and fresh as to garner attention from the public and local communities. Security and connectivity will be essential with the app as it will contain users' personal information and person stories. The database and network will need to be airtight because without a solid foundation, the house will fall and the app will fail.

Proposed Solution

The Social Media Journal App project will explore new and innovative ways of expressing one's self online. The project will focus on the niche of journaling in which users will be able to write extended thoughts with embedded photos and potentially more. The project wants to combine the ideas of social media and journalism and form a collection of community's and personal journals that allow people to see into other's lives and really understand and enjoy other's high points in life journal entry by journal entry. These journal entries could be described as Twitter posts with the robustness of Facebook and the suave simplicity of Instagram.

On a user's profile, they would have the ability to look through their life within their journal entries. For some this would work as a diary; others it would be a public journal of their adventures. Users would have access to the communities they follow. They would be able to create a new post which would include photos, text, and whatever else they want embedded.

Initially the app will consist of individual profiles that allow a person to share their own journal entries on but hopefully the idea will be expanded into the thought of communities. These communities will allow groups of people or organizations to have a place that they can communally place journal entries. Users will be able to follow these communities and have the ability to get a glimpse into another's life. Imagine an OSU community where students come on and post journal entries about their day at OSU. They could then come back to that community later and see the lives of students along with their own story every day according to the OSU community.

From the technical side, this project will consist of a full stack development. The project will consist of modular but robust code that will be easily edited and changed as the project evolves over the project's life time. The database will be situated on OSU's student databases up to the point when the project extends past the grasp of capstone. From there, it will be up to the group members who stay on the project where to situate the database from there on. React Native will be used as it will allow for both Android and IOS development concurrently. Networking and Security will be developed with professional standards as they are essential to the projects stability and survival.

The UI of the app will be innovative in that it will be attractive to new users and is comfortable for the consistent users.

Performance Metrics

Project completion will be judged by the following metrics:

1. Database:

- Can the database capable of 10s or 100s of user's information?
- Will the database be able to be transfer at end of term?
- Is the database capable of being edited and viewed?

2. Networking and Security:

- Does the network maintain a consistent connection between apps and database?
- Does the network maintain a secure connection to and from the database?
- Is there secure account registration?
- Is there secure log in and log out?

3. UI:

- Can the user create a profile for themselves or a community?
- Can the user view and follow other profiles?
- Can the user make journal posts?
- Can the user make journal posts that contain both text and text-wrapped images?