

Iteration 1 Reflection

Creating a quality web application that is secure and scales well is much more than raw programming talent. In order to finish in a reasonable amount of time, you have to collaborate as a team. It's extremely difficult to collaborate as a team without a process in place to help guide things along. As it has been quoted in lecture, "weeks of programming can save you hours of planning."

For our group, this first iteration was (nearly) entirely planning and documentation. There are some rough spots in our planning that come from both being new to the software project process and the unknowns of working with a new software stack. We have to make predictions of how long tasks will take and who would take-on each task without most of us having done them before. However, to that end, we believe that we covered a substantial amount of planning through the project charter, requirements document, and general planning that will produce an efficient path to accomplishing our project's goals.

When it comes to actual implementation, we initiated a .NET project and made sure that everyone could at least compile, build, and run the application. This part is typically a difficulty when working with teams—we managed to get everyone up and running after our first meeting, but it wasn't entirely painless. Thankfully, that was a risk that we predicted that could be a problem, but it didn't affect our ability to deliver on this iteration—everyone's technology behaved as we hoped. We have also already accomplished a stretch goal: deployment of the application on an accessible web server (specifically, using Apache as a proxy server).

We meet on time, and we have efficient Discord meetings; the goal of our meetings is to make sure that everyone asks the questions they have and they have a plan of what they will do before our next meeting. We regularly communicate what we're working on and what we may need help with. Because of this, we've planned appropriately for iteration 2 with each member assigned their tasks.

The first iteration went very well for our group. We have confidence in our abilities to accomplish the goals we have set, and there's nothing to be too concerned about. If we start early on each effort and plan appropriately, we will have a high-quality web application by project closeout.