

Challenges and Excellences

Team 9, "Insert Team Name Here"

Over the course of making this product, we experienced several challenges. The first big challenge we faced this semester was scheduling a time to meet that would ideally work for everyone in our group, if not at least 3 of us. This became even more challenging during the middle of the semester, when each of us were extremely busy with midterms for our other classes. This is without taking the pandemic into account and the fact that we are all working from home, which further compounded the issue of finding good times to meet. The other large issue we had to address was the fact that none of us were experienced with IOT. This meant that we had to spend a good deal of time researching this tech, which then lead to longer development time than we would've needed had we known more about the technology. Our inexperience also put us at a disadvantage because we had to spend time fixing our document after our initial submissions.

Despite the challenges, there was a lot that we found excellent in this project. Frequent reviews by Professor Reza and the TAs allowed us to revise our approach and document as the semester progressed, so we didn't have mistakes snowball into the final product. Additionally, we were able to stay very organized throughout the development cycle despite our challenges with finding meeting times due to the usage of cloud based platforms such as Google Docs and GitLab. We found that another excellence of the project was the overall experience of developing a piece of software from scratch. We learned new ways of project management (The scrum model) and developed a working piece of software.

If we were to do this entire project over again, we would definitely make some changes. We would try and find a time earlier than Friday that each of us was free and stick with it throughout the entire semester. We would also ask for clarification on our expectations from stakeholders, as we made some costly mistakes during the semester because of wrong assumptions. We would also try and do more research on the subject beforehand so we don't end up wasting time having to redo parts of our document because of a lack of knowledge. In the same vein, we would spend more time proofreading our document and making sure that each section was consistent with each other.