Whiteboard - User Guide

A user friendly Learning Management System (LMS)

Team Members

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1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this user guide is to detail the features of Whiteboard, a Learning Management System (LMS) intended to provide an alternative to commonly used products such as Blackboard or Canvas. This guide will explain the permissions and functions of three different user types: administrators, instructors, and students, as well as how to perform initial setup of the server side of the application.

2.0 Getting Started

2.1 System Requirements

	Client Application Requirements	Server Application Requirements
Operating System	64-bit Windows 7 or later, Mac OS X Yosemite or later, Ubuntu 16.04 or later	Windows Server 2016 (x64), SQL Server
Processor	Intel Pentium 2 Processor or better	Intel Core i3 Processor or better
Memory	128 MB or greater	16GB or greater
Hard Drive	5 MB	10 GB
Peripherals	Keyboard, Mouse	N/A

2.2 Installing the applications

Client Side:

As the application is a self contained JAR file, no installation is required on the client side. Users simply need to double click on the file and the application will start.
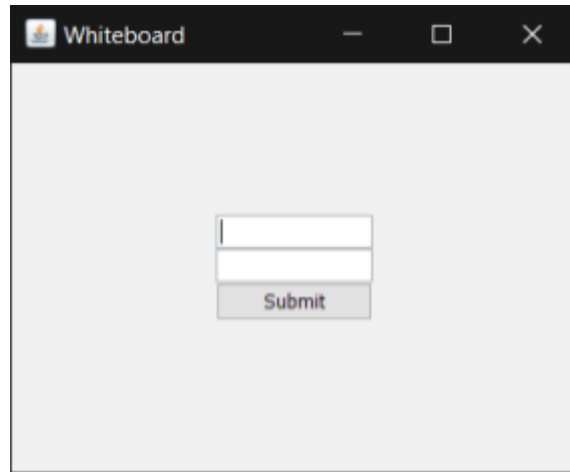
Server Side:

- Install SQL Server & Import the Whiteboard Database File
- Install the Whiteboard Service executable as a Microsoft Windows Service
- Run the Whiteboard Service

3.0 Client Application

3.1 Getting Started

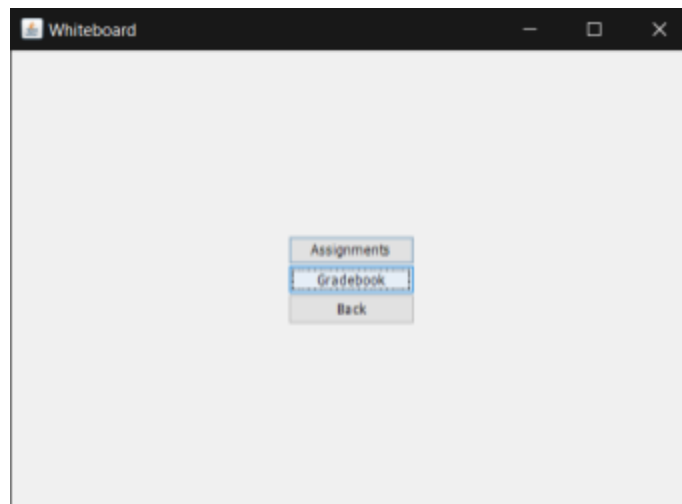On initial startup of the application, users will be presented with the following window:

Login Window

This is the login window. In order to continue, the user should input their username in the top box, and their password in the bottom box, and click submit. If the information is correct, they will be redirected to the home screen, or the administrative settings screen, depending on their account status.

3.2 Home

After correctly entering their login information, users will be presented with the following screen:
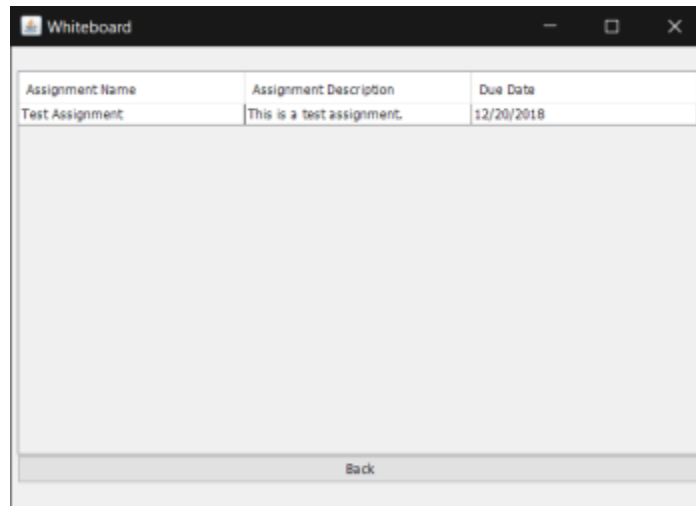

Student Home Screen

By clicking on one of the buttons labelled "Assignments", "Gradebook", or "Calendar", the user will be redirected to the appropriate screen. Clicking the "Logout" button will end the user's session and return to the login screen.

3.3 Assignments for Students

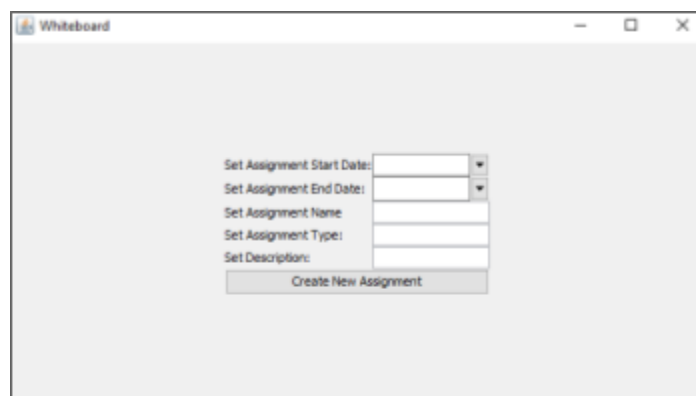After selecting the Assignments button from the Home window, students will be presented with the following screen:

Student Assignments Screen

This screen will display the Assignments for the course selected on the homepage, as well as a short description and the due date. Users can select the "Back" button to return to the Home window.

3.4 Assignments for Instructors

After selecting the Assignments button from the Home window, instructors will be presented with the following screen:
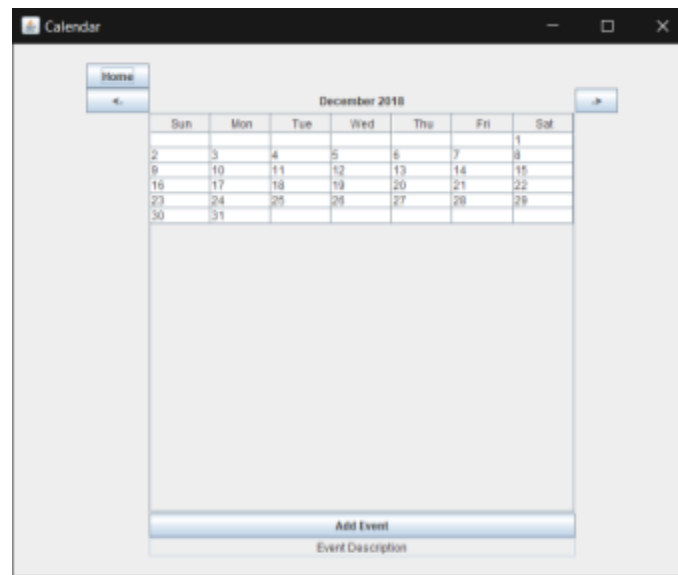

Instructor Assignments Screen

Instructors will be able to create assignments, selecting the start and due date for the assignment for students to see. In the "Set Assignment Start Date" and "Set Assignment End

Date" boxes, instructors will be able to select the corresponding information through a drop down box. Additionally, instructors will be able to set the name, type (i.e. Exam, Quiz, Homework, etc.) and short description for the assignment. This information should be typed into the relevant boxes. Be sure to enter appropriate information in all boxes and not to leave any boxes empty in order to prevent errors from occuring. Selecting the "Create New Assignment" button will commit the inputted information to the server. Finally, instructors can select the "Back" button to return to the Home window.

3.5 Calendar

After selecting the Calendar button from the Home window, users will be presented with the following screen:
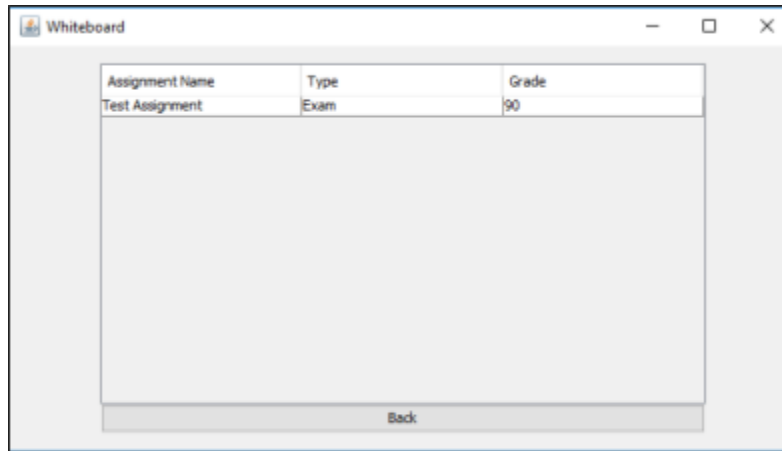

Calendar Screen

This screen displays a calendar as well events input by the user. By clicking "->" button at the top of the screen, the displayed month will increase by one. Similarly, the "<-" button will decrease the displayed month by one. By clicking on one of the cells in the calendar, the user will be presented with a description of any events associated with that day in the box at the bottom of the screen, in the box that displays "Event Description". Upon selecting the "Add Event" button, the user will be presented with a series of dialogue prompts requesting information for the month and day of the event, as well as a short description. Be sure that none of the boxes are left empty, and that all date values are entered as whole integer values, or errors will occur. Finally, the "Home" button can be selected to return to the Home window.

3.6 Gradebook For Students

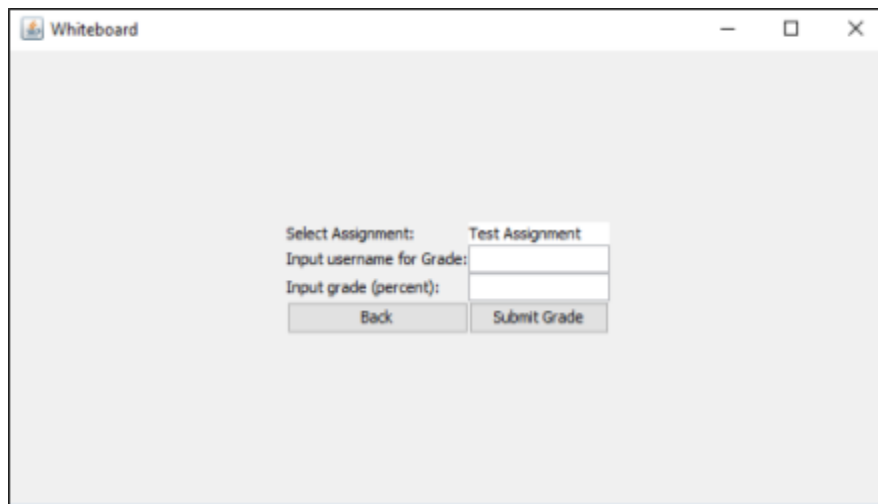After selecting the Gradebook button from the Home window, students will be presented with the following screen:

Student Gradebook Screen

This screen displays a list of completed assignments, as well as the type of assignment and the grade received for that assignment. Students can select the "Back" button to return to the Home window.

3.7 Gradebook For Instructors

After selecting the Gradebook button from the Home window, instructors will be presented with the following screen:
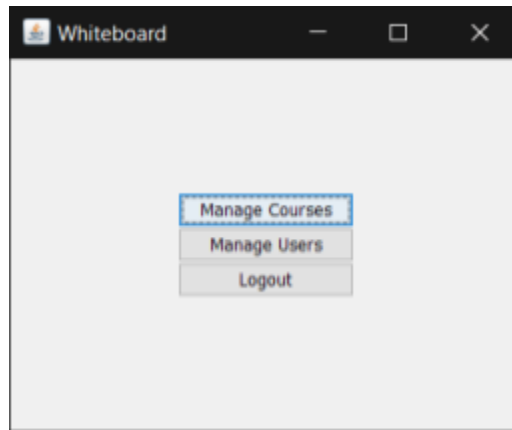

Instructor Gradebook Screen

Instructors will be able to input a student username associated with each assignment, as well as the score received by that particular student on that assignment. They can then select the "Submit Grade" button to commit the grade assignment to the server. Be sure that all boxes are filled, and that a valid username and grade input are entered, to prevent errors from occurring. Instructors can also select the "Back" button to return to the Home window.

3.8 Admin

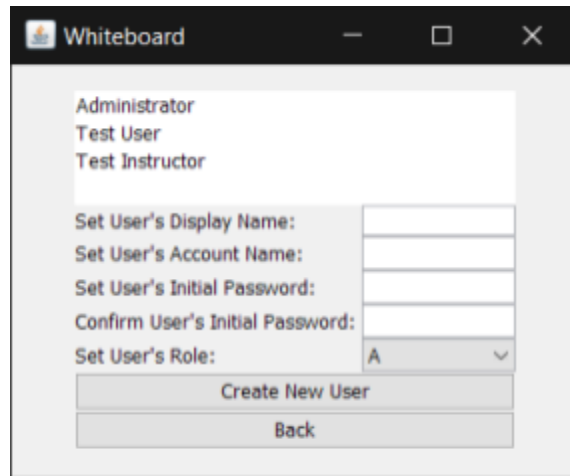When logging in to an administrator account, users will be presented with the following screen:

Admin Dashboard

By clicking on one of the buttons, they will be redirected to the "Manage Courses" or "Manage Users" screen accordingly.

Manage Courses Screen

The "Manage Courses" screen allows administrative users to create new courses for students. They are able to name the course, declare the students in the course, as well as the instructor. They are also able to specify which section of the gradebook the course will appear in, and what term the course will take place in. Be sure to fill in all of the information boxes, as otherwise the course will not be created.

Manage Users Screen

Similarly, the "Manage Users" screen allows administrators to create new users. They will be able to declare the user's account and display name, as well as the initial password, which the user is able to change later to their desired password. They are also able to declare the user's role, be that Administrator, Instructor, or student. Again, be sure that all boxes are filled, as well as making sure that the Initial Password and Confirmation boxes are the same, as otherwise the creation will fail.