

CSCI 3308 Group Project

Milestone II - Project Tools & Agile Methodology

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1 Project Management Tool

Trello (See Figure 1).

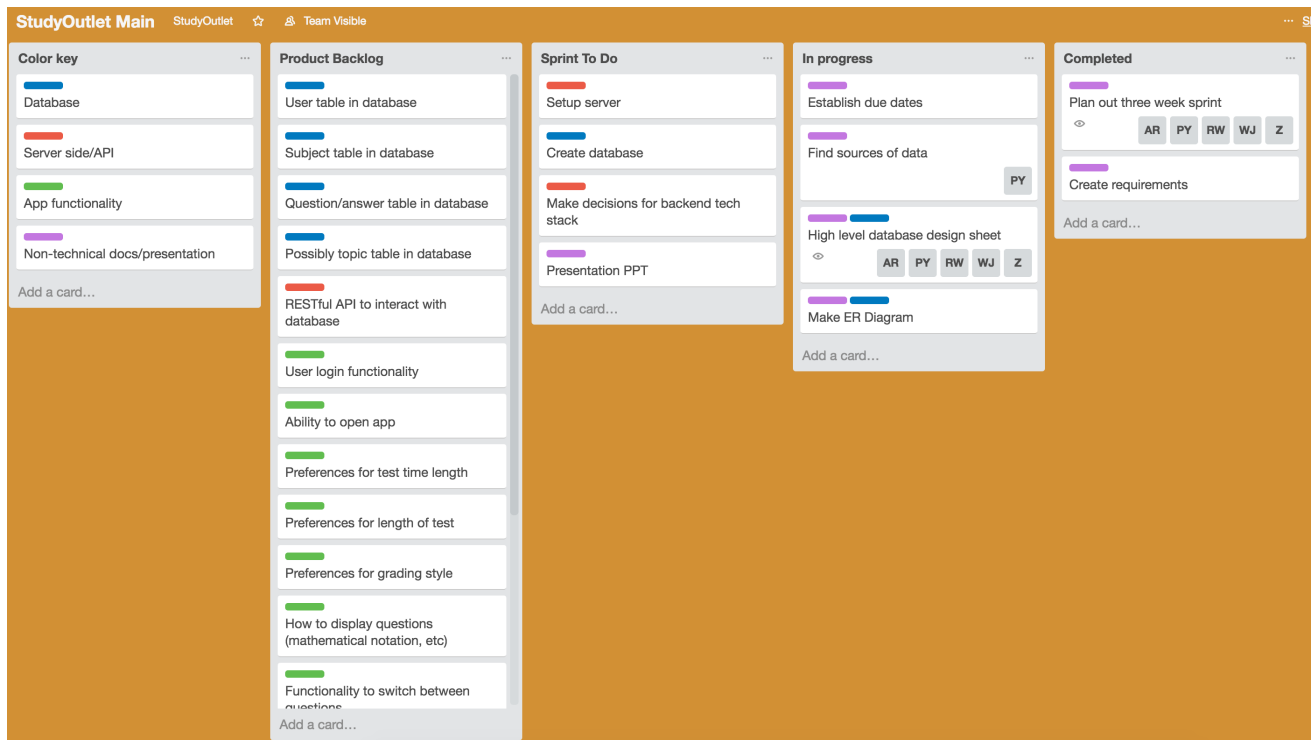


Figure 1: Screenshot of our Trello board for project planning. We have a "Product Backlog" column with all features and tasks, color coded depending on type of task. We then have the Kanban-esque three column format for keeping track of tasks in our current sprint, in progress tasks, and completed tasks.

2 Detailed Description of Project Plan

We will be making an iOS application that provides a robust practice testing framework to help students review for exams. Ideally, the students would be able to pick the subject and topics they are looking to study, a number of questions or amount of time theyd like like the test to be, and would get a randomized practice test with relevant questions.

We will keep a database of questions for subjects and topics that we want to support—for the demo application, well be using the Physics GRE test as the subject. When supplying a practice test for the user, we will randomly pick questions from our database. The user will have a number of customization options including time limit, number of questions, and possibly whether or not answers are provided on the fly.

In effect, this project will allow students to take however many practice tests they want on a certain subject or topic. Research shows that practice tests are a great method of studying in a wide variety of subjects, so providing a framework to take the burden of finding practice tests off of the students.

3 Sprint Details

For this sprint, we'll be starting with the big-picture database planning, design sheet, and ER diagram. After this, we'll setup our server (possibly locally first, or maybe just deploy with Heroku off the bat) and do all the necessary MySQL and PHP configurations.

From there, we'll focus on setting up the actual database and make decisions regarding our back end tech stack.

Finally, we'll be working on creating a few Powerpoint slides for the class presentation before spring break.

4 Agile Stand Up Meeting Summary

We spent this meeting trying to set up Trello and get our project requirements figured out. Everything has been pretty reasonable, although its something of a challenge getting our project ideas to fit within the constraints of a Trello board. Getting Agile ideas to fit on a Trello board is a similar challenge.

We came up with an idea for a project pretty quickly and havent deviated too much from that. However, it has been a bit difficult making the who does what task type of decisions; especially because the first task will be designing and creating the database, it seems like thats something that everyone needs to be a part of.

We are all leaving the meeting knowing we have to work on designing our first three week sprint. Also, everybody needs to work on immediate task assignments—even if a lot of the database design needs to be done as a group, figuring out a good task split is important in finishing stuff in a timely manner.

5 Agile Stand Up Meeting Review

Everyone did a pretty good job with the first Agile standup. We all do a good job at speaking our minds and speaking honestly about the challenges were facing. A lot of the time in the standup was spent talking about technical challenges with Trello.

We all found Milestone 2 slightly confusing, so making an effort to be more familiar with the requirements before meeting seems like a good idea for the future.

6 Abbreviated Meeting Notes

Ryan: Not many challenges, read over first plan, meeting with everyone. Thinks Bill might find sources of data. We can split tasks up with different people.

Zoe: Weve decided what were doing. Wants to team up to complete tasks. Creating database might be a more than one person task—could be a challenge. Can assist in creating the database.

Bill: Finding source of GRE test, (challenge)how to separate questions into different fields. How to make everything editable in the future. Wants to help setting up server and creating database (should be task for everyone to learn).

Woosung: Making lots of requirements and specifying three week sprint. Working on the designing part of database/app—figuring out how app looks with everyone else. Computer Systems is a challenge—very boring teacher.

Alex: Typing up the agile standup notes. Making requirements. Milestone 2 is very ambiguous in what its looking for. Will type up agile meeting summary, and put some thought how tasks should be assigned.

What went well: Everyone was great at speaking their mind, everyones here. We got to know each other a bit better. No big conflicts, a lot of agreement.

What didnt go well: Did not understand milestone 2 requirements. Trello is confusing.

Could be improved upon: Be more prepared with milestone requirement. Project timelines.