CSC 642 HCI Summer 2018
Initial Proposal
Team 11

GatorEats

Discover on-campus food with a seamless app for the busy, budgeting student. An SFSU yelp focused on getting food fast and generating business.

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A. Executive Summary:

We are designing an app called GatorEats. The user will provide details about the food they want and the app will search for on campus food that matches. The app may have search categories, such as “drinks”, “sandwiches”, and etc, to narrow down results, and it may also have a feature that displays where to buy the result. It will have a database of all on campus food and categorize the food easy identification. Currently, there isn’t a database that keeps track of the food on campus or a way to search the food, so our app will become a unique resource.

We will have two general interfaces for our app: one for the searchers, and another for the vendors. Intuitively, searchers are those who will use the app to search, and vendors are those who sell products that can be searched. The searcher interface will provide powerful search capabilities while the vendor interface will provide an easy way to add, edit, and delete products from the database.

Our project is designed to help SFSU students easily buy food on campus. It will reduce time to decide on food and get food. This app will also be useful for students who want to try new food around campus, students who don't have time to browse stores, and students who want to better budget their meals.

Our users may find themselves getting tired of eating the same food on campus each day and they don't have time to walk around campus between classes to find something to eat. This app would easily display their options and allow them to select and go to where they can buy food.

There isn’t any rigid competition since our app deals with a limited range of food within a specific area. Websites like yelp do act similarly to our app. However yelp doesn’t go into the specifics of the products and doesn’t cater to SFSU students. There are some applications we can borrow from that will help our project. We can possibly take advantage of Google map features and pre-existing food product databases.

B. Personas

1. Alexis
    - Mother of SFSU student
    - Visits son/daughter on campus from time to time
    - From different city, not familiar with campus
2. Kyle
    - SFSU student
    - Has an one hour gaps between classes
    - On campus every weekday
    - Has a strict budget
3. John
    - Administrator
    - Has knowledge of usage of database
4. Jerry
    - Vendor on campus
    - Wants to post cafe details online
    - Needs an app to advertise business

C. High Level Use Cases:

1. Alexis

Alexis, the mother of a SFSU student, is visiting her child from a different city. She visits her son/daughter at school, and she needs to find a place to get lunch. She also would like to not spend too much on her lunch since food in San Francisco is expensive. Alexis downloads the GatorEats app and uses the app without registering since she won't be staying on campus for much longer. She sets a budget for her lunch and she also wants to narrow down her search in order to find food that she may want, such as a sandwich. The app returns a list of restaurants and places and their locations on campus which satisfy the criteria that Alexis specifies on her search. Alexis can then locate the restaurant and find the distance between the locations.

2. Registered User

Kyle is an SFSU student and eats lunch on campus most days of the week. He opens the GatorEats application on his phone and logs into his account. After signing in, he chooses a maximum budget for the day. He can browse a list of items that are available on campus that are equal to or less than his budget. As he chooses items, the price is deducted from his budget. Once he uses the allotted amount, he goes to the location to purchase the items.

3. Administrator

John is an administrator for the GatorEats application. He logs into the app and sees an administrative dashboard of current item listings and customer messages. He has to ability to post new items and prices for different on campus locations. He can also remove out of stock items. If he encounters misuse of the application, he can suspend accounts or remove inaccurate posts. John has to approve new vendors and respond to requests of the vendors.

4. Vendor

Jerry is the owner of a cafe on campus. Jerry wants his business to be advertised to students who want to buy coffee drinks or bagels, and downloads the GatorEats app to upload the menu and location of his restaurant. He registers as a vendor on the app and is approved by an administrator of the app. Jerry can then add or update the price of an item on his menu, and specify what category the item falls into like “sandwiches”. Jerry then updates the database and

students who are looking for a sandwich will be able to find the price of the item and the location of Jerry's cafe.

D. List of Major Functions Envisioned:

Food Filter Function - We want to provide a convenient and quick application that will present anyone at SFSU a list of food options and we want to implement a food filter functionality. There are many people who have food restrictions therefore we want to provide an easier experience when they are selecting what they are able to purchase. The filter function will be able to narrow down results by different sorting methods. These methods include search bar, budget, location, and categories. Each method may have further sorting options such as an "any budget." Product will be searchable by different descriptors such as name, price, vendor, type (soda, sandwich, noodle etc.) and etc. Each product will also have one or more images.

User Account - Users may be able to create their own account. They can save budgets, favorite products and vendors, and rate products and vendors. Users with favorited vendors and products can be notified when prices change, or when there is a new product. Additionally, they may be able to order food that takes time to prepare.

Anonymous User
Unregistered user browsing the application. They can access a list of posts containing an image and a price.

- View Posts
- Post
- Register
- Find food
- Set Budget

Registered User

Registered user browsing the application. This user has an email login and password to access a list of posts containing an image and a price.

- Login
- Post
- Follow up
- Set Permanent Budget
- Update profile

Administration Functions - Administrators are registered users of the app who have extra functions that allow them to moderate and approve vendor requests. Administrators can suspend or remove closed businesses as well as use the application normally.

Administrator

Technical user responsible for site moderation. If misuse of the application is encountered, an administrator can suspend the violating user's account and remove their inaccurate posts.

- Login
- Post
- Approve/reject posts
- Flag users/suspend account

Vendor input function - To allow the restaurant owners the opportunity to add new items and adjust pricing on their own. We want to create a separate interface where the restaurant owner would essentially have an account and that will allow them to adjust their own prices as well as menu items. Their products will be neatly listed under their account with privileges to

add, edit and delete product entries and details. The vendors are also able to input their own details about their restaurant.

Vendor
Registered user that is responsible for updating database with new items as well as updating item availability per location.

- Login
- Post
- Add new items
- Update item status/price
- Delete out of stock items

Map function - We plan to implement a Google Maps API where it will allow the user to find the location of the food easily. The API will show the user's location and the restaurant's location. This will provide users that are unfamiliar with the campus an easier process of obtaining the food.

E. Competitive Landscape:

Currently there are applications that are designed to help find dining options. However, our application is focused on helping SFSU students and staff alike find budget-friendly food and drink options on campus. Applications like Yelp provide rating information for restaurants and stores, including prices and locations. Our database will contain the stores on campus, all of the items available at each location, and their corresponding prices. Unlike our competitors, we will know how much our user is willing to spend. Each time an item is chosen, the price is deducted from the total budget. We provide a platform for vendors to post the items they sell and an easy way for customers to search and filter their on campus options. We also have an option to search

for options with an unlimited budget, the user will have the ability to select “any” instead of a numerical value. Lastly, we will cater to the needs of SFSU students and make an app that works best for them rather than the general public.

F. Tools and Frameworks:

We are planning to primarily use Figma as a tool to create the entire interface and UX design. As for the coding, it will primarily consist of CSS however in the event that we do need to code, we will be utilizing Android studio & java language. The figma tool will allow us to prototype the application and create a “fake” backend but will still clearly show our intentions and goals.