

BlaBlaMeet: Meeting website for students and enthusiasts

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Abstract— BlaBlaMeet is a website that aims to put people in touch who have similar interests and hobbies or need help with issues related to their studies. Enthusiasts can find each other through the website and share real-life activities together.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Explanation

Nowadays, we are more connected than ever through social media and all kinds of internet-based services yet somehow people are still isolated from each other. Forming friendships and relationships has become challenging for some as it is easy and convenient to hide behind a social media profile. Everyone has an online presence. In this environment, many may find themselves looking for real-life interactions.

We want to create a website that aims at putting people in touch who have similar interests and hobbies or need help with issues related to their studies. Getting in touch online is easy but that is just the first step. After finding people with the same interests and making appointments, users of our website meet in real life. Meeting new people works best if you are already interested in similar fields and activities and we want to put people together who have those in common. Common interests to bond over and meet up again in the future or form new friendships.

Where already existing alternatives might take a more generic approach, we want to create a solution that gives users the opportunity to choose what they are looking for from the beginning. Therefore, the website will be divided into four main areas. That makes it less confusing and easy and intuitive to navigate.

B. Alternatives

Popular alternatives include Jodel, a mobile application which is popular in Germany. This application is location based and only allows posting messages on a public feed.

Another one is Meetup.com, which is more generalist and allows to create meetups related to anything. Our website will focus on integration with third-party APIs thus limiting the scope of the possible meetups.

Our project does not aim to compete with some kind of meeting websites like dating sites. Services exchange website are not considered either, since money is not a consideration in the user's meetings. All meetups should be made for free and not in exchange of money.

II. ROLE ASSIGNEMENT

Role	Name	Task description and etc.
User	Marc-Antoine	Quality assurance, testing of the product as a normal user through multiple devices
Customer	Simon	Ensuring requirements are the most precise possible, and that they stay up-to-date during the lifetime of the project
Software developer	Stanislas	Implementation of the requirements and technical feedback
Development manager	Stephane	Work distribution and time, deadline management. Communication management with the client.

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Technical considerations

The project will take the form of a full stack website using Ruby-on-Rails. Future improvements could include the elaboration of a mobile application leveraging an API, however this is out of scope for now.

The website will be usable on both desktop and mobile devices, so a mobile app is not a necessity for now.

B. Requirements

The website should meet the following requirements.

- 1) The landing page of the website should state clearly its goal and purpose
- 2) Users should be able to create an account from the landing page in order to access the website's features
- 3) Users should be able to login using their email and password
- 4) Users should be able to edit their profile with the following fields and properties:
 - a) Name
 - b) Email address
 - c) Profile picture
 - d) Location
 - e) School (if they are a student)
 - f) Types of meetups they're interested in
- 5) Users should be able to edit their account properties
 - a) Email
 - b) Password
- 6) Users should be able to create meetings with specific properties:
 - a) Name
 - b) Location
 - c) Type: food, study, sports, activities
 - d) Description/Requirements, e.g. who do they want to meet
 - e) Depending on the type of meeting, more field should be available. For instance if a user wants to meet for studying, they could choose if they want to meet someone from their university, department, major, grade, etc. If they want to meet for food, they could include the specific type of food they're interested in a specific field.
- 7) Users should be able to search for meeting using filters
 - a) Filters are all the characteristics of a meeting (name, location, etc)
 - b) Filters can be combined
 - c) Filters should be conditional, e.g. university filter will only appear if the meeting type is studying.
- 8) Users can privately message each other through the website
- 9) Users have a home feed showing the recently created meetings
 - a) Meetups are shown according to the user's preferences
 - b) Meetups are distinguished by color
- 10) Users can show their interest in a certain meeting
 - a) "I will join" / "I'm interested buttons"
- 11) The website will leverage 3rd-party APIs for richer content
 - a) Locations will use Google Maps API (pick a place, show a map)