1.

I want to take this class because I have an idea in mind for a start-up website, but I have a very limited knowledge of web design. Basically I hope to create a dynamic, but interactive calendar software that synthesizes event information from text messages, emails, Facebook events, Tweets, homework assignments, appointments, and meetings into an all-inclusive, easy-to-use organizer. My vision is that this super-calendar, unlike Google Calendar, would utilize a one-click process that figures out the details of an event so that you never have to type up the details into the calendar by yourself. In order to manage all of your events in one place, this program would have to access information across many different platforms simultaneously. Because this program would also need an awesome user-interface, it would definitely help me to acquire an understanding of the workings of web design and graphics. Ideally, I’d like to create an open-source website/app that users can exploit for all of their scheduling necessities. As such, I really hope to be able to take Intro to Front-end Development. I want to cultivate the skills to grow my own applications, while also creating relationships with other programmers in the open-source community.

2. A website that I think solves an interesting problem is Kickstarter.com. Kickstarter is an online tool that helps innovators raise funds for creative, consumer-supported projects via interactive videos and demonstrations. By creating a Kickstarter project, only consisting of a short description, pictures, and an informative video, designers can generate crowd-driven funding for their ideas, bringing previously unknown projects to life. Rather than pitching to big-name companies, start-up creators can set a funding goal and deadline, then empower users to decide which ideas they would like to see on the market, without burdening potential backers. Kickstarter truly bridges the gap between product design and consumer expectations. Users can also ask questions, leave comments, and browse through the variety of unique projects competing to generate funds and ultimately put a product on the market.