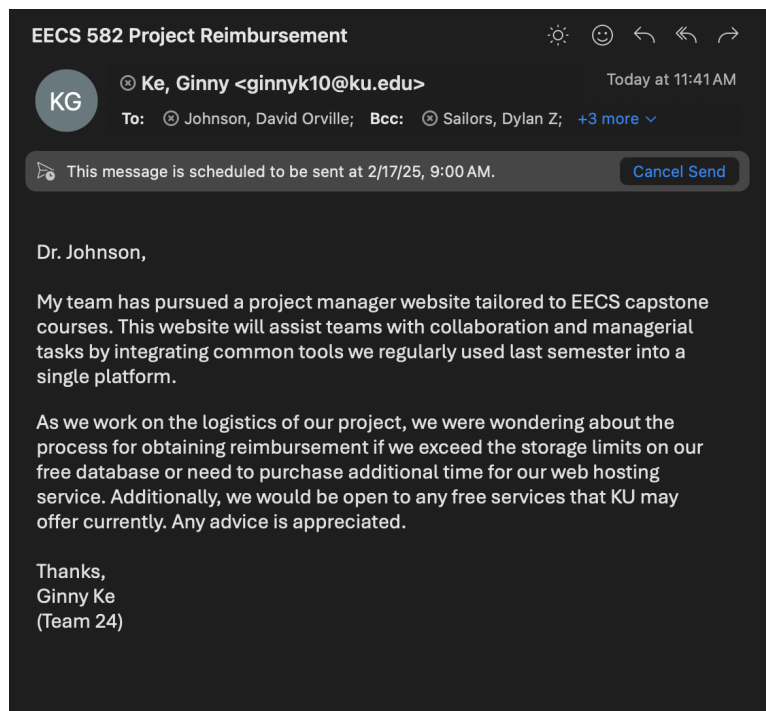


For our 581 project, we created a website with a similar framework to the one we plan on making here. We found that GitHub Pages doesn't support that because to host on GitHub pages, it reads off the index.html file. With how we set up our website using razor pages and ASP.Net, there isn't an index.html file for GitHub Pages to use. We had to research an alternative that supported razor pages and everything we wanted to do. We landed on Microsoft's software called Azure. It supported our website and ran it perfectly.

For 582, we wanted to weigh our options and see if Azure was really the best option here for us. The issue we see with using Azure is that we expect higher traffic than what our previous website received, so using the "pay as you go" option might go past their minimums and start incurring fees. While Azure is a good option, the goal of this requirement is to see if we can find other hosting services that could eliminate our worries about Azure. We have an email scheduled to send to Dr. Johnson about our budget so we'll make our final decision based on that answer too.



Microsoft Azure	
Pros	Cons
Native support for .NET and Razor Pages	Free option has limited resources
Continuous deployment from GitHub	Learning curve for beginners
We're familiar with the service	Rare cases have found the website to be flow during high traffic
Low latency due to several global data centers	Pricing varies depending on usage. Use this calculator to estimate pricing:

	https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/calculator/
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Railway.app	
Pros	Cons
Supports .NET apps	Not as many features for .NET as Azure
Easy deployment from GitHub	Low number of data centers
Pay for what you actually use	Complex pricing options to choose from: https://railway.com/pricing

Render	
Pros	Cons
Free web services with auto development	Goes to sleep after inactivity
Supports .NET core	Manual setup is required for .NET apps
Has a free database	Lacks many support options (for free plan)

Amazon Web Service (AWS) Beanstalk	
Pros	Cons
Supports .NET and SQL server	More complex setup than Azure that also requires a steep learning curve.
Pay for what you use pricing.	Response times may be slower in regions without a data center.
Seamless integration with other AWS	Too many services and options available.
Strong integrity and security. IAM, DDoS, and encryption.	

Google Cloud Platform	
Pros	Cons
Best for AI and machine learning projects	Few global data centers which can lead to slower response times.
Integrates well with other Google services	Response times may be slower in regions

which highlights their analytical tools.	without a data center.
Fast deployment of projects.	Few online resources
	Price can be difficult to calculate: https://cloud.google.com/pricing/list