

FoodSource Proposal

FoodSource is an iOS app that serves as a marketplace for its users to buy food directly from where it's sourced. Farmers, gardeners, hunters, beekeepers, or anyone with a surplus of food can sell it on the app, allowing for buyers on the app to buy organic unprocessed food directly from its source. The buyers on the app will be able to filter through specific preferences for the food that they buy, like whether the meat is grass-fed, GMO free, etc. The payments will be processed on the app, and then the buyer and seller can decide whether the order will be picked up, delivered locally, or shipped. The buyer can then leave a rating and review for the seller, allowing for the sellers to build a reputation on the app for other buyers to see. This is an idea that doesn't really exist on a large scale yet. There are a few small apps that are meant specifically for farmers but they are EU based. To make this app, I plan on using Xcode as the development environment, Swift and SwiftUI as the language and UI framework, Google Firebase for the backend, and a payment processing SDK like Stripe to handle payments.

I felt that this project was appropriate for the class because it's a pretty large and challenging project that integrates a lot of concepts I learned at LMU such as mobile development, UI design, and database design. I have experience building iOS apps, but building an app that serves as a marketplace will be the most challenging app that I have made. Because of the scale of the app, I'm not sure if I will be able to finish the app in its entirety this semester but I feel that I should be able to get most of it done and at least complete an MVP. This is also a project I'm personally interested in because I thought of the idea from wanting to buy from a service like this myself. When I looked up ways to buy food directly from farms, I was surprised at the lack of ways to do so. I think a lot of people who want to eat more natural and organic food without having to go to an expensive grocery store would benefit from the app, as well as the farmers, hunters, and gardeners that could have a convenient way to sell their food online.