Dating Website Project - Advanced Web Programming

Description of my whole project:

Based on the given instructions, I have tried to implement a social media platform where users can create an account, upload a profile picture, write a bio, and like/unlike other users.

Before going into the details of the project, I would like to mention that I have used the following technologies:

- 1. React for the frontend
- 2. Express for the backend
- 3. MongoDB for the database
- 4. Passport.js for authentication
- 5. Google OAuth for authentication
- 6. Multer for file uploads
- 7. React-Slick for the slider package
- 8. Materialize CSS for the frontend design (partly)
- 9. JWT for token generation
- 10. Bcrypt for password hashing
- 11. Mui to import some icons (home and google) ...

Part 1: Backend

In the backend, I have created the following routes:

1.1 Get routes in gets.js:

- /api/user: To get the user details
- /api/all-users: To get all users from the database
- /api/user/like: To get the users whom the current user has liked

- /api/chat: To get the chat messages between two users
- /api/user/image: To get the user's image (if any)
- /api/auth/google: To initiate the Google OAuth process
- /api/auth/google/callback: To handle the Google OAuth callback

1.2 Post routes in posts.js:

- /api/user/login: To login a user
- /api/user/bio: To update the user's bio
- /api/user/like: To like/unlike a user
- /api/user/image: To add an image to the user
- /api/chat: To send a chat message

The most time-consuming part from these was making the updateLikedUsers function which I directly supply to the /api/user/like route. More details about this function can be found in posts.js.

Part 2: Frontend

In the frontend, I have created the following components:

- App.js: The main component that holds the routing logic
- Header.js: The header component that contains the navigation links
- Login.js: The login component
- Register.js: The register component
- ResetPassword.js: The reset password component
- Chat.js: The chat component
- ChatWindow.js: where the chat messages are displayed
- Profile.js: The profile component
- AddImage.js: The add image component

- GoogleAuth.js: The Google OAuth component
- Suggestions.js: The suggestions component
- UsersSlider.js: The users slider component

In the front page you will get 3 buttons: Register, Login, and Google Authenticate. On the top, which stays there all the time, you will see the navigation links: Home, language options and the user's profile picture (if logged in).

Let me start with the header logic:

- You can see everything on the header component. The header component is always visible on the top of the page.
- But, when profile is clicked, there are 4 options: Profile, Add Image, Chat, and Logout.
- Of course, the first three address a logged in user, so even though you can click them unlogged, you will be redirected to the login page.

Login and Register:

- These have basic implementations. The login page has a form with email and password fields.
- The register page has a form with email, password, and name fields.
- Successful login redirects to suggestions page, which contains the sliders of all users.
- Successful register redirects to the login page.

Dropdown menus on the header:

- 1. My Profile:
- When clicked, the user is redirected to the profile page.
- You can see the user's name, email, bio, and profile picture & date of registration.
- There is an option to update the bio.

2. Add Image:

- When clicked, the user is redirected to the add image page.

3. Chat:

- When clicked, the user is redirected to the chat page.
- The chat page has a list of users with whom the current user has chatted. And empty chat window.
- the chat window is updated when a user is clicked.
- In the chat window you can see the name of the user you are chatting with, and the messages.
- Additionally, you can search for a text in the messages.

4. Logout:

- When clicked, the user is logged out and redirected to the login page.

Google Authentication:

- When clicked, the user is redirected to the Google OAuth page.
- After successful authentication, the user is redirected to the suggestions page.

Suggestions:

- The suggestions page contains a slider of all users.
- You can like/unlike a user by clicking the heart icon.
- By clicking expand, you can see the whole bio or name if it was too long and was cut off.

Additional:

I wanted to add all the node modules and my .env to .gitignore, but I feared it might not

work for the evaluator. If you don't get my google client id and secret, I don't think the

google authentication would work.

The most time-consuming part of the frontend was the chat window. I had to make sure

that the chat window is updated when a user is clicked.

I enjoyed working on this project, but I am aware that there are many things that can be

improved.

Until 10 days ago, I was following weekly with the course, until I emailed the TA and

understood the deadlines.

Time was a constraint, so I had to skip some interesting features I was planning to

implement.

All in all, I hope it will work seamlessly on your machine. If you have any questions, please

let me know.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

author: "Azarias Galama"