SE/ComS 319 Construction to User Interfaces Spring 2024 Midterm Project Proposal

Cyclone Eats

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Introduction

Gavin is a junior originally from Park Ridge, Illinois. While studying at Iowa State, I found an interest in embedded software development, which he interned for at John Deere. I am excited to use the information I have learned in class to complete this project.

I am Bryce, a Junior at Iowa State from Excelsior, Minnesota. When I'm not working on school work, I am often working on Iowa State's solar car by upgrading and managing its custom embedded software. Currently, we are looking to build a new website for the solar car club from scratch and am hoping to use what I learn from this project to help with that.

Purpose

Our website aims to provide users with a convenient platform to order food online for pickup, offering a seamless experience akin to popular services like GrubHub or EatStreet. We aim to streamline the process of finding and ordering from local restaurants, ensuring quick and efficient pickup options for our users. This will mostly focus on both ISU-Dining and student-run food places (like Sparks or the Creamery) since there is no platform that supports both.

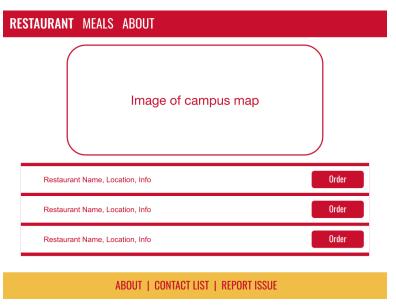
Goals and Objectives

To increase user engagement, we aim to implement a responsive website design that ensures a seamless and consistent experience across all devices. By developing a website that dynamically adjusts to various screen sizes and resolutions, including desktops, tablets, and mobile phones, we aim to provide users with easy access to our platform regardless of their device. This objective will not only enhance accessibility but also improve user satisfaction, encouraging increased interaction and prolonged engagement with our website. Through a responsive design approach, we seek to create a user-friendly environment that fosters repeat visits and promotes deeper engagement with our online food

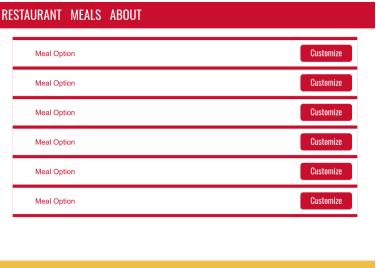
Project

This project aims to aid the hungry lowa State student with easy ordering for pickup for ISU Dining locations as well as student-run locations. This efficiency will be fostered with a website that is easy and intuitive. Users will be able to search for locations or meals they are interested in, begin an order, add some customizations, and order their meal (of course, actually sending an order to a location is not in the scope of this project).

Each page will have a navigation bar at the top, and a footer at the bottom (as shown in each of the following diagrams).

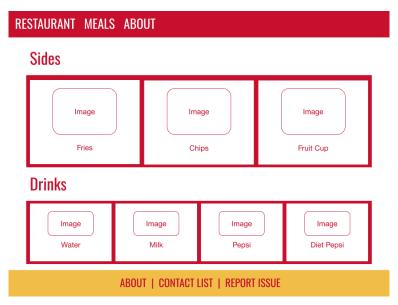


The main page will be the most used and probably most useful. This is the restaurants page where users can scroll through locations and choose which location to begin the order from. An order button will be located to move users to the next stage.



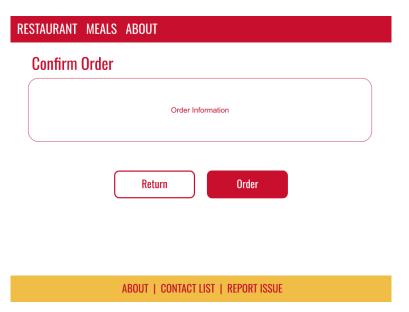
ABOUT | CONTACT LIST | REPORT ISSUE

Once you begin the order, you can select from a list of meal options the location has. This could be a "Chicken Bacon Ranch Sandwich" at Lance & Ellie's for example. Once the user decides what they want, they can click a "customize" button to continue the ordering process.

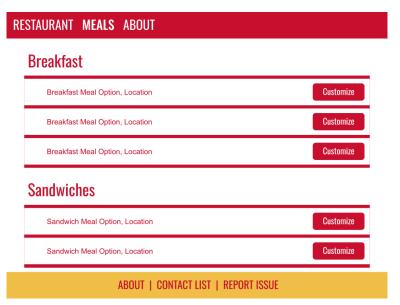


Customization to a meal would likely include adding sides and a drink to the meal.

Users do not have to select anything and can select multiple items as well. This is similar to the checkbox activity done in class. Images of these options may also be shown.



The ordering process finishes with a summary of the user's requested order and the option to exit without ordering or to lock in the order. As mentioned before, no order will actually be sent through to anyone for this project.



Users may have a craving, but not know which location to go to. This is why they will be able to look through all of the meal options on the "meals" page. They can begin their order process from here instead of the "restaurants" page.

RESTAURANT MEALS ABOUT Header Image About, Mission, Introduction, Instructions...

The about page will contain some additional information to guide the user through the website as well as information as to what the mission of the website is.



This figure illustrates the different images that can be used for customization options in the website. This includes different sides and drinks. Using too many images (for every single possible customization for every possible meal on campus) would be out of the scope of this project, but what will be used will be more than enough to demonstrate the capabilities of a site like this.



Header images like this one can be used for web pages that are not directly part of the ordering process. This could be a header for the "about" page. They are not necessarily useful, but they make the site pop a bit more and prevent some pages from being menacing walls of text.

Resources

We won't require additional funds for this software development project as we will utilize existing resources. We'll primarily rely on VS Code as our development environment, leveraging its features for coding and debugging. With a team of two developers, we'll collaborate using GitHub for version control, allowing us to manage changes efficiently and ensure code integrity. Our time allocation for this project will involve dedicating a few hours outside of class per week to focus on development tasks. We'll organize ourselves by setting clear goals, establishing regular communication channels, and dividing tasks based on our strengths and interests. This approach will enable us to manage our time and resources effectively, ensuring the successful implementation of our project goals and objectives within the academic timeframe.

Future Work

This midterm project will lay the groundwork for our final project, where we imagine expanding the site's features. An example of this could be offering delivery services, which would feature a user inputting their current location.

Final Comments

Thank you for considering our proposal. We appreciate the opportunity to present our project plan for developing an online food ordering platform. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require further information. We look forward to the possibility of collaborating with you on this endeavor.

Personal expectations for this project include gaining valuable experience collaborating on website development projects and furthering our skills utilizing Bootstrap for responsive design. Through this project, we anticipate enhancing our teamwork abilities and deepening our understanding of modern web development practices.