

Marauder's MIT MVP Team and Individual Reflections

What went well:

We worked really well together and we were all willing to pitch in and do work. Some of us frontloaded and some of us backloaded, so we were all able to help each other out when we were busy with other work. We also finished most of the features we wanted to implement for MVP.

What could've been improved:

We could have been more organized with what order we completed features. Some features were prereqs for others but weren't completed until extremely late. Subsequently, for some features we had to get them out asap at the last minute, so we had to work really quickly to push code, and we might have inadvertently caused a lot of technical debt. Additionally, because of the rush, there was not a lot of testing -- we now have some bugs and we don't completely know why. We probably should have been more careful with code that was pushed, but there was no time. We had a lot of different people working on similar parts of the app so there was some confusion.

What you would do differently in future:

We will be more organized and make sure everyone understands everything. Sometimes, people missed out on some information and therefore coded wrong things. We will make sure when we make design choices everybody is aware of the outcome.

Additionally we will assign tasks using a gantt chart and assign a due date with each task. We will get better at using things like trello that keep track of who is working on what, and make the trello tasks extremely specific so no one accidentally codes the wrong thing. We will integrate testing and make sure the tests run before code is pushed.

Peer reviews:

Reviews from Caitlin:

In general I think everyone did a really great job working together! Fantastic team.

Connie - I'm so appreciative of the work you did, but I feel a little bad that you struggled for so long on one piece of code! The one tip that I would have is -- definitely let us know earlier if you're having trouble! We would have gladly met up to help you with the task or figured out something different for you to do. No one deserves to be lost in code :P it sucks. But thanks for all of the UI code on the friends page -- that would have taken me forever to complete and I'm impressed that you did it so quickly.

Linda - Linda you are a workhorse it's crazy. Also, you and I should get better at communicating what we're working on, because I think I overstepped some of your work just a little bit.

Aradhana - Thank you for working on the facebook stuff because I would have never wanted to touch that in a million years. You are so great.

Tiffany - Yay collaboration buddy! It was fun working with you.

Reviews from Linda:

Connie - Good job with the UI and getting all the friend features working (requesting, adding, pending, removing, etc.)! And thanks for working on the User model in the beginning... that was super complicated and I really appreciate how hard you worked on it :) I enjoyed tooling with you for most of our Saturday!

Aradhana - Thanks for doing the Facebook integration stuff! Getting our profile picture and friends from Facebook data is really impressive and super important. Also props for getting all of that done in spite of your other work

Caitlin - You are so organized it is insane :DDD Trello was a really great idea and helped us keep organized. Also thanks for making all of those slides for the UI. They were really helpful for us to see how the app will fit together. I'm really glad you enjoy refactoring code because I also dislike disorganized code.

Tiffany - Thanks for working on friends and taking over the User model! And for connecting all the front end stuff to the code I wrote, and really bringing our app back together. And good job fixing the friending issue where you can only see people who joined before you; it was so baffling and strange to reproduce, and a very important fix!

Reviews from Connie:

Tiffany - Thank you for helping me out and taking over the User model after me! It was a lot of work, and thank you for pulling it all off in such a short time for the MVP. You're so smart and I appreciate all the hard work you put in! Thank you for helping me stay focused!

Aradhana - Thank you for being the Meteor and Facebook guru! Those two platforms are an essential part of this app, and your knowledge has really helped us. I'm glad that you are so good at backend. Keep up the good work!

Caitlin - I admire your organization skills. At first, I was skeptical of trying out all the new platforms, but later I realized how helpful they were in keeping track of our tasks and goals. You are so good at writing code for both backend and frontend! Your work at the beginning really helped our project start off well.

Linda - Thank you for spending so much time working on this project to the point that you neglected your other classes! I also really appreciate how you help us keep track of all the project deadlines. You're so good at finding problems in our app and figuring them out!

Reviews from Tiffany:

Aradhana - Thanks so much for the doing the facebook friends integration stuff!! :) One thing I would say is maybe next time we can document the unfamiliar stuff a little more so everybody

knows how things work? Thanks for being so awesome and responsive and doing so much even when you were swamped and busy! :)

Caitlin - Thanks for being so nice and so ready to work all the time! You definitely made a huge push at the beginning which got us all off to a good start. Thanks so much for figuring out how to structure the app and making sure we were able to use meteor. Also putting together all of the wireframes!

Linda - Thanks for being awesome and getting so much done on your own! :) You did so much even with a lot of other classes to work on. Having the front end framework really helped me test the back end stuff.

Connie - Thanks for working so hard!! You did such an awesome job and got a lot done :) Friending looks great! Can't wait to see how awesome front-end will look for the final!

Reviews from Aradhana:

Tiffany - Thanks for working on the user model and helping figure out the entire status issue.

Connie - Thanks for taking care of the UI things. I dislike that sort of work, so it was a relief that work interests worked out so well. Also next time you get stuck on a piece of code, just ask someone else to look at it. Being mired in code is generally awful, and a break helps.

Caitlin - Thanks for being so friendly all the time. Also props for introducing new methods of team organization to us. I have never been in a team this organized. Thanks for also being understanding of other work loads.

Linda - Thanks for getting so much done by yourself that night. Also thanks for always being on top of deadlines. I hope your other classes are also doing okay.