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Detailed Team Project Proposal – Idea #1

I.   Project Summary

Project Name	Short Description	Team Enthusiasm Rank *1-10	Team Confidence - YES we can do this in time! *1-10	Product Owner. *Who will own this for the team?
Campus Cuisine Exchange	- Share **budget-friendly** and **time-efficient recipes** tailored for university students. - Rate, review, and discuss recipes - Buy/sell surplus groceries within the student community.	10	9	Disha Anil

II.   Project Details:

a. Name

Campus Cuisine Exchange

b. Description

What is the project you want to develop? (Description in less than **250 words)**

Campus Cuisine Exchange is a university-centric app designed to help students at NYU (and other institutions) manage their meals more effectively. The app features a

collection of budget-friendly, easy-to-prepare recipes tailored specifically for college students. Users can share their own recipes, plan weekly meals, and generate grocery lists with detailed cost and effort ratings.

In addition to recipe sharing, the app offers a social platform where students can rate and review recipes based on taste, preparation time, and grocery costs. Users can also include sources for grocery shopping, highlighting affordable and convenient places to buy ingredients.

A standout feature is the ability to buy and sell surplus groceries within the student community. This helps minimize food waste by allowing students to sell excess items at reduced prices or find affordable ingredients for their recipes. The app also includes social features like liking, commenting, and chatting to foster community interaction and support.

By combining meal planning, recipe sharing, and a marketplace for groceries, Campus Cuisine Exchange addresses the common challenges of budgeting, time management, and food waste that university students face.

What is/are the problem/s you want to solve?

- **Budget Constraints:** Provides affordable recipes and grocery options to help students manage their food expenses more effectively.
- **Time Management:** Offers quick and easy meal planning solutions tailored to busy student schedules.
- **Food Waste:** Facilitates the sale and purchase of surplus groceries, reducing food waste and promoting sustainability.
- **Social Connection:** Encourages community engagement through recipe sharing, reviews, and collaborative features, enhancing the university experience.

This app can serve as a valuable resource for students, making their daily lives more manageable and enjoyable while fostering a supportive campus community

c. User Personas and Major Features

Who are the users you are targeting?

- **University Students:** Primarily those who are budget-conscious and seeking quick, affordable meal solutions.
- **Student Groups & Clubs:** Organizations interested in promoting shared resources and social cooking events.
- **University Staff (Optional):** Faculty or staff who may want to participate in the community or provide feedback.

What are the major features you are targeting?

- **Recipe Sharing & Discovery:** Users can browse, share, and search for recipes tailored to student needs.
- **Meal Planning:** Tools for users to plan weekly meals and generate grocery lists based on selected recipes.
- **Grocery Marketplace:** A platform for students to buy and sell surplus groceries to each other.
- **Social Interaction:** Features for liking, commenting, and discussing recipes.
- **User Profiles:** Personal profiles where users can track their recipes, meal plans, and grocery transactions.

d. MVP(Minimum Viable Product)

Which features are a must to have? (If you don't have these you do not have a project, not really)

User Authentication:

- Sign up and login functionality (including university-specific registration if needed).

Recipe Management:

- Create, edit, and delete recipes.
- Basic search and filter capabilities.
- Add and view recipe details including ingredients, preparation steps, and cost information.

Meal Planning:

- Create weekly meal plans.
- Generate and view shopping lists based on selected meal plans.

Grocery Marketplace:

- Basic buy and sell functionalities for surplus groceries.
- View and manage listings.

Social Features:

- Like and comment on recipes.
- Basic user-to-user messaging or chat.

Profile Management:

- View and edit user profiles.

- Track own recipes, meal plans, and marketplace transactions.

e. MLP (Minimum Loveable Product)

Which features are a really nice to have to the users would fall in love with the product

Enhanced Recipe Details:

- Ratings and reviews for recipes based on taste, effort, and cost.
- Option to add recipe sources (e.g., grocery stores or brands).

Advanced Meal Planning:

- Integration with a calendar for meal scheduling.
- Suggestions for meal planning based on user preferences and dietary restrictions.

Enhanced Grocery Marketplace:

- Option for users to set up alerts for grocery items they need or want to sell.
- Integration with local grocery stores or delivery services for real-time price comparison.

Community Engagement:

- Group chat rooms or forums for recipe discussions and cooking tips.
- Ability to follow other users and get updates on their activities.

Gamification:

- Badges or rewards for active participation, such as recipe sharing or grocery transactions.
- Leaderboards for top recipe creators or most helpful reviewers.

f. Nice-To-Haves Features

Not MVP, not MLP but still would be cool to develop these features.

Recipe Scaling:

- Automatic scaling of recipe ingredients based on the number of servings.

Recipe suggestions:

- Automatic suggestion of recipes based on the ingredients present at hand.

Integration with Nutrition Information:

- Nutritional information for recipes.
- Dietary filtering options (e.g., vegetarian, gluten-free).

Recipe Sharing on Social Media:

- Options to share recipes on social media platforms directly from the app.

Event Management:

- Tools for organizing and promoting cooking events or potlucks among students.

Voice Commands:

- Voice-enabled features for hands-free recipe navigation and meal planning.

g. Call Out CRUD Features

How is this project interactive for the user personas?

Persona 1: General Users (Students)

- **Create:** Submit new recipes, add grocery listings, and create meal plans.
- **Read:** Browse and search for recipes, view grocery listings, and check personal meal plans and profiles.
- **Update:** Edit their own recipes, modify grocery listings, and update meal plans.
- **Delete:** Remove their own recipes, cancel grocery listings, and delete meal plans.

Persona 2: Admins (if applicable)

- **Create:** Set up and manage university-specific settings and categories.
- **Read:** Access all user-generated content, including recipes and transactions.
- **Update:** Modify or remove inappropriate content or manage user access.
- **Delete:** Remove problematic users or content that violates terms of service.

h. Similar Already Existing

What similar applications exist on the market? (at least 3 with links and descriptions).

- **Yummly**: This app provides a wide range of recipes and meal planning tools. It includes features for generating shopping lists and filtering recipes based on dietary preferences, though it's not specifically tailored for college students. https://www.yummly.com/
- **Mealime**: Designed for meal planning and grocery shopping, Mealime offers easy recipes and personalized meal plans. It's more general but could be useful for students looking for straightforward meal options. https://www.mealime.com/
- **BigOven**: This app provides recipes, meal planning, and grocery list features. While it has a broad user base, it might not be tailored specifically to the student lifestyle. https://www.bigoven.com/
- **College Cooking**: While not an app, there are resources and websites dedicated to college cooking that offer budget-friendly recipes and tips tailored to students. https://acollegekitchen.com/

Detailed Team Project Proposal – Idea #2

I.   Project Summary

Project Name	Short Description	Team Enthusiasm Rank *1-10	Team Confidence - YES we can do this in time! *1-10	Product Owner. *Who will own this for the team?
Unseen	Create itineraries for cities all around world, comprised of lesser-known points of interest and unique restaurants and accommodations. Users can save and publicly publish trips for other users to follow.	8	9	Jayanth Rao

II.   Project Details:

a. Name

Unseen: Explore the paths less traveled.

b. Description

What is the project you want to develop? (Description in less than **250 words)**

Unseen is an itinerary-building application to help travelers discover hidden gems and lesser-known destinations by leveraging crowd-sourced data sources like Reddit and Instagram. The app scrapes data from geotagged posts and forums, such as Reddit's r/travel and other localized subreddits, and Instagram's location tags, to curate a personalized itinerary for the user. We aim to deliver a far more authentic itinerary experience tailored to the user's preferences by offering more "off the beaten path" destinations, as opposed to mainstream options like Yelp and TripAdvisor. Our biggest aim is to help any traveler explore their destination like a local and to see the unseen.

What is/are the problem/s you want to solve?

With *Unseen*, we aim to solve the issues of overcrowded tourist destinations and offer a more straightforward experience for our users. Quieter, less populated alternatives can enhance the overall traveling experience.

By querying user-curated forums like Reddit and geotagged locations on Instagram, we can find spots for our users that are mainly known by locals, rather than those shared by tourists.

In an effort to reinforce walkability in various tourist destinations, *Unseen* prioritizes a walkable tourist experience, promoting a more healthy way for users to experience their destinations.

By having users save and share their trips, we can enrich the social discovery aspect of these lesser known destinations and provide the travel community with fresher locations to visit.

c. User Personas and Major Features

Who are the users you are targeting?
- **Travelers on a budget**: by avoiding tourist-heavy locations, travelers can skip the price-gouging of hotels and restaurants but still have an authentic local experience
- **Solo travelers**: individuals who wish to travel to a new location can do so in a safe and walkable manner.
- **Digital WFH Workers:** after COVID, many people completely work from home, but wish to still travel; having a less tourist-y experience in another country/region can still allow these people to complete their work, but still enjoy what the local culture has to offer
- **Travel Agents:** travel agent services can easily create itineraries and make bookings quickly, acting as a middleman between the end-user and Unseen

Who are the major features you are targeting?
- **Personalized Itinerary Creation:** users can input their preferences, such as duration, interests, food preferences, etc. and our application will generate an itinerary in accordance with those preferences
- **Saving and sharing trips:** by saving the itineraries, users can revisit them or share them via social media. Users can also publish their itineraries for other users to gain inspiration from or to simply follow along for their own trips.
- **Map Integration:** a dynamic, interactive map highlighting each of the locations included in the itinerary will be provided. With walkability as the main focus, users can easily follow along.
- **Location Reviews & Ratings:** users can rate certain locations that they visited, which will allow for us to improve our recommendations over time.

- **Time-based Suggestions:** based on the user's filters, we can also recommend events occurring during the dates the user plans to visit a location.
- **In-App Travel Journaling:** users can also journal their visits, making notes of each of the locations they visited.
- **Accessibility Filtering**: our application can help users who require accessibility options to filter out locations that may be more inaccessible compared to others.

d. MVP(Minimum Viable Product)

Which features are a must to have? (If you don't have these you do not have a project, not really)

- **User Authentication**: users should be able to sign up via their Google accounts
- **Data Scraping to create recommendations**: data from Reddit and Instagram should be pre-scraped so that recommendations can be provided in real-time without any delays.
- **Map Integration and Navigation:** a dynamic map providing a visualization of the itinerary
- **Saving and Sharing Itineraries:** Users should be able to save their trips and share them with a simple link
- **Itinerary customization:** Users should input their preferences, which in turn are used to customize the itinerary accordingly.

e. MLP (Minimum Loveable Product)

Which features are a really nice to have to the users would fall in love with the product?

- **User review and rating of itineraries:** users can rate locations, leave reviews for overall itineraries, and provide another form of "crowd-sourcing" to improve recommendations
- **Collaborative Itinerary Planning:** users can invite their friends and family to collaborate in real-time on putting an itinerary together
- **Local Event Integration:** integration with ticketing and event aggregation APIs can provide another facet of itinerary planning for the user
- **Integration with Public Transit or Ride-Sharing:** in some areas where walkability may not be practical, users can get from place to place using public transportation or through a local ride-sharing/taxi service
- **Tips and Tricks related to the Local Culture:** interesting facts about an area's local culture, or various traditions can be provided to the user for them to be more in tune with the culture.

f. Nice-To-Have Features

Not MVP, not MLP but still would be cool to develop these features.

Language Support:

- **Local Language Phrases**: Provide useful local language phrases or a translation feature to help users communicate more effectively.
- **Multilingual Support**: Offer the app in multiple languages to cater to a global audience.

Sustainability Information:

- **Eco-Friendly Options**: Highlight sustainable and eco-friendly travel options and activities.
- **Carbon Footprint Tracker**: Include a feature to track and offset the carbon footprint of their trip.

g. Call Out CRUD Features

How is this project interactive for the user personas?

Persona 1: Solo Travelers
- **Create:** create an account, create personalized itineraries, make notes in a private travel journal, write down safety notes about locations and timings
- **Read:** find solo traveler-friendly recommendations, read reviews from other travelers, access their saved itineraries
- **Update:** edit a pre-made itinerary, update preferences, and update their reviews of locations and trips
- **Delete:** remove their own trips, delete their account, remove points of interest in a recommended itinerary

Persona 2: Travel Agents
- **Create:** create customized itineraries for clients, create travel packages to host on their own sites, create saved lists that clients may find appealing
- **Read:** read reviews of destinations, review client feedback, read saved itineraries
- **Update:** edit and update client itineraries, update travel packages, update reviews and recommendations of locations
- **Delete:** delete expired itineraries and events, removed old reviews or packages that are out of date, delete account

h. Similar Already Existing

What similar applications exist on the market? (at least 3 with links and descriptions).

If this work is truly unique and no one has even done anything even remotely similar please explain your search procedure and how you came to this conclusion.

- **Google Maps:** Google Maps allows users to build a route with multiple locations, while providing reviews for various locations. However, users cannot create a list of saved routes, and itineraries do not include price, recommendations of similar locations, or any other fleshed out information points.
  - https://maps.google.com
- **TripAdvisor Itinerary Builder:** TripAdvisor offers an itinerary planner with AI recommendations. There is a lot of overlap between *Unseen* and this tool, but the UI appears to be far clunkier for simply selecting locations. However, TripAdvisor does a good job of offering itinerary customization options.
  - https://www.tripadvisor.com/TripBuilder
- **WanderLog:** Similar to the TripAdvisor itinerary builder, WanderLog is a standalone application to aggregate a user's reservations, lodging, and travel plans. While it is similar to what we wish to offer with *Unseen*, the WanderLog does not offer a wide range of social media integration options and relies heavily on Yelp to curate reviews of locations.
  - https://wanderlog.com/