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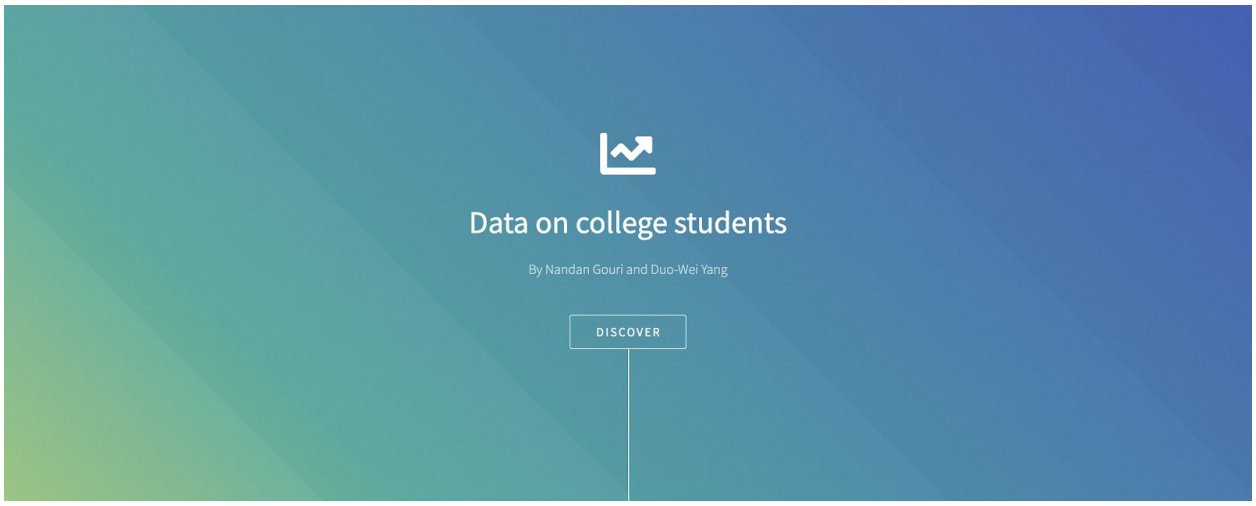
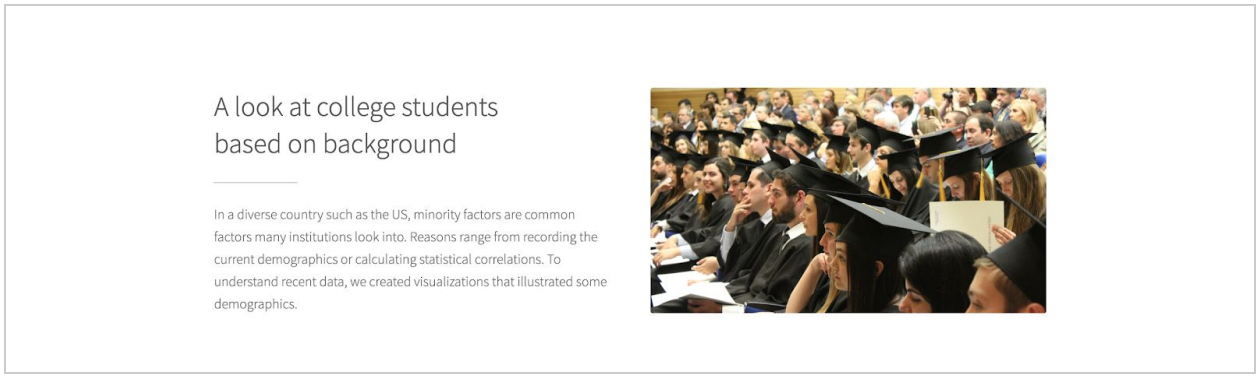
CS 4460: P5

Graphing data on college students

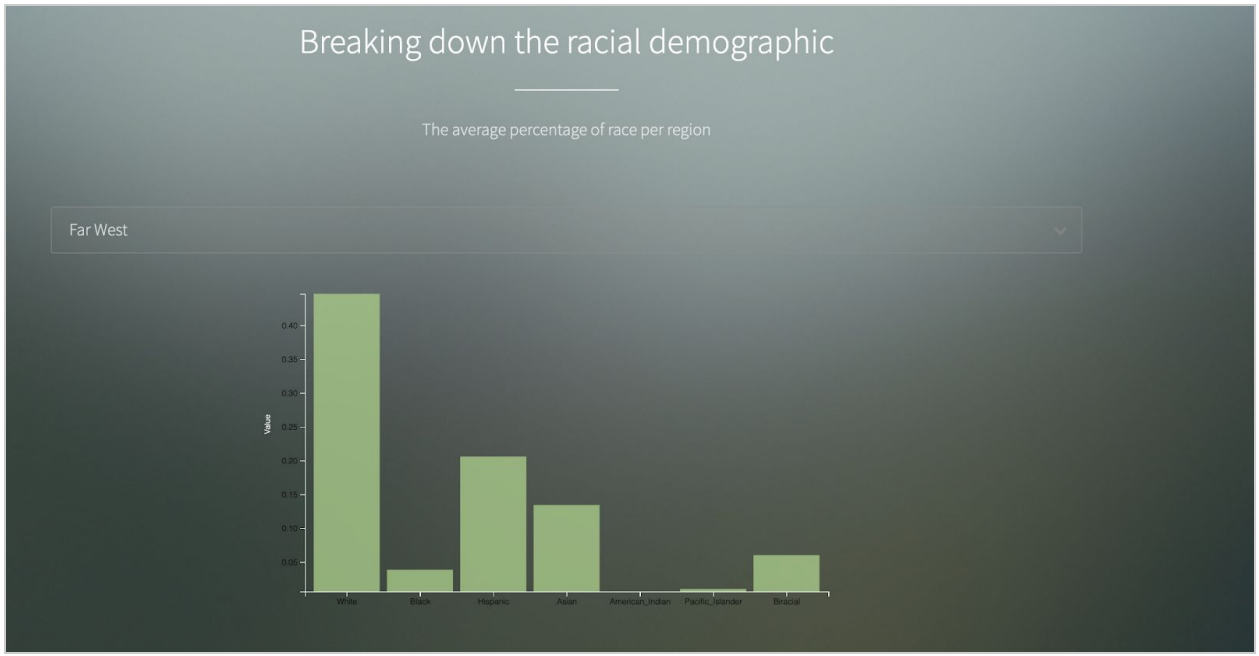
Our team chose to use the college dataset to display certain diversity qualities of the given population. We chose to focus on race and poverty, as they are common factors in college acceptance rates and often important within college life in terms of socioeconomic and political elements.

The user is first greeted by an introductory header and textual information. Although this does not contain any data visualizations at this point, they are important elements to establish the storytelling style concept. The top header and title establishes the general focus and a transition button (the discover button) and the following paragraph and image explains what is to come on the page.

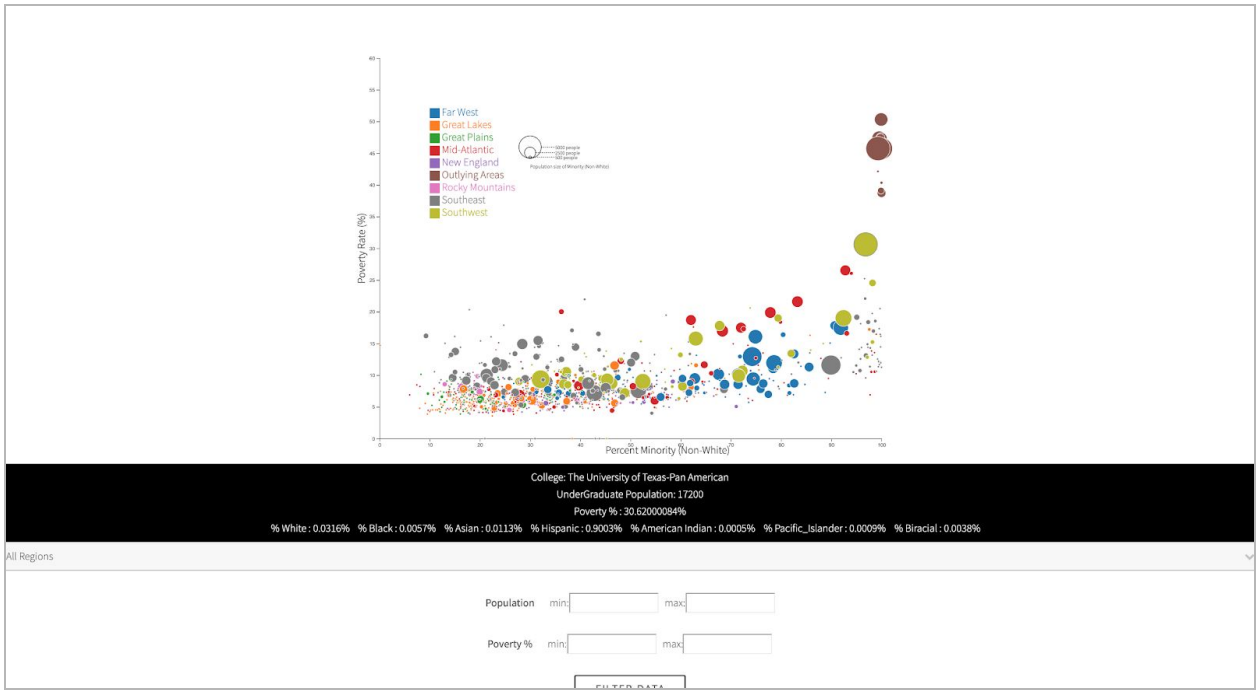




In order to illustrate our topic, we first created a bar graph that displayed the race percentage (in decimal point) according to region. This allows the user to see the racial demographic and have a better understanding of what type of students attend university overall. Through the dropdown menu, the user can see a dominant white population for every region, with some predictable increases for certain populations (i.e. higher Hispanic and Asian in the Far West and higher Black population in the Southeast). This graph suggests a possible racial disparity and or a reflection of the overall racial diversity in the US.



The next visual does a comparison between population and poverty with a bubble plot. By hovering, the user can see a specific university's values, which is highly useful if a user is curious about particularly large or small bubbles (which indicates population size). The added stroke also helps to see the specific bubble more easily.



Furthermore, the user can filter the chart according to region, population, and the poverty rate. This helps the user narrow down what kind of university they want to look at and have a more specific understanding. The colors also indicate what region the user is looking at, which helps them differentiate between the points as they explore this chart. This aligns with Gestalt's law of similarity, which is a useful visual aid.

Overall, the user is able to understand some of the overall racial and poverty data on college students and recognize some of the trends and patterns that we exposed. The user is able to gain a general understanding of the average racial demographic among different regions, which helps contribute to the question of race in college admissions in recent years. With the other visualization, the user can explore further and consider poverty rates among different regions. WIth this, the user can see how much poverty exists among large and small schools and in different areas. They can then go back to the first visualization and potentially make some comparisons between race and poverty. For future iterations, we would like to expand the

narrative and include other common factors that affect college students, such as expenditures per student and employment rates after graduation.