

Reflection Report

Team 15

Ashesi University

CS341 Web Technologies

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Elton Fafali Gamor

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Individual Reflection Report

I worked as a front end developer in my team's development of the lost and found item management system project. As a front-end developer, my primary contribution involved designing and implementing key user interface components, such as the user and admin dashboard, the lost item page and submission page. This involved creating the HTML structure and applying CSS styling to ensure a visually appealing and intuitive user experience.

For the pages I designed the user dashboard provides a central hub for users to manage their lost and found items, view notifications, and access relevant resources. The Admin dashboard offers administrators the tools to monitor and manage reported items, user accounts, and overall site activity. The Lost Item page, allows users to fill a form for their lost item and lastly the submission page is a form that allows users to provide the necessary information about an item being reported.

I collaborated closely with backend developers to integrate frontend components with backend functionalities and validate data flow and interactions for instance the user dashboard has a box for the total amount of lost items found so collaborating with backend users to ensure these numbers are accurate based on what is in the system is very important. While the frontend work primarily involved design and styling rather than complex algorithms, ensuring a responsive and user-friendly layout was crucial. Employing CSS grid and flexbox layouts facilitated the creation of dynamic and adaptable designs that adjust seamlessly to various screen sizes and resolutions. For the challenges faced, due to internet issues and communication, collaborating with backend users to get work done on time was

challenging. Also Ensuring consistent appearance and functionality across different browsers presented challenges, requiring meticulous testing and adjustments to CSS styles.

Lastly, what I learnt is that effective collaboration between frontend and backend teams is essential for seamless integration and delivery of a cohesive product and paying close attention to details, such as cross-browser compatibility and accessibility, is crucial for delivering a polished and inclusive user experience.

Nyameye Akumia

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Individual Reflection Report

As a front-end developer on the lost and found item management system project, my primary contribution was to design and develop user interface components, including the dashboard templates, report forms, and login page. My role involved improving the UI, implementing consistent styling, and integrating interactive features to enhance usability.

I designed the home page, detailing the purpose of the site and acknowledging the team members. I assisted in the design and implementation of the dashboard interface, displaying a list of lost and found items retrieved from the database. I also assisted in the development of forms for users to report missing items, capturing relevant details such as item description, location, and contact information. Implemented client-side validation to ensure data integrity before submission. I also oversaw the functionality of the login and signup pages, collaborating with the backend developers to ensure a functional authentication mechanism for users to access the system, with form validation and some error handling.

The most important aspect of my design was ensuring consistency and usability across all pages, as well as responsiveness. I employed reusable components and established a cohesive design system, including standardised typography, colour palette, and spacing guidelines.

This approach allowed for efficient development and maintenance while ensuring a visually appealing and intuitive user interface.

The main challenge was ensuring consistent rendering and functionality across various browsers and devices, which is still incomplete and is an area for improvement.

This project demonstrated the importance of collaboration and pulling one's own weight because it was easy to fall behind and lose track of progress. Additionally, working closely with backend developers was crucial for aligning user interface requirements with backend functionality and ensuring a cohesive user experience. Clear communication and collaboration would facilitate smoother integration and minimise rework. This project also demonstrated the importance of testing. Emphasising a culture of continuous testing and iteration would have helped uncover issues early in the development process and allowed for timely adjustments. While not successfully implemented, it was interesting, as a group, considering accessibility features, such as keyboard navigation and screen reader compatibility and how compliance with accessibility standards would affect how we structured our work.

Heidi Hat

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Individual Reflection Report

I worked as a front developer on this project. I worked on a few pages. The project focused on the development of a website/ web application for lost and found items for Ashesi. I worked with my team members to develop the website. The workload was divided among ourselves by the project manager. I was able to apply some of my knowledge on HTML and CSS in the development of the lost items, found items, search results, and user profile page. Collaboration on my side was a bit weak closing onto the submission date, as I was unable to

communicate with my team members due to connectivity problems. I tried my best to solve the problems I came across in the delivery of the work.

Certain issues I struggled with was time management, as I was unable to manage time effectively as I had ongoing projects on the sidelines leading to less quality pages in delivery due to that I struggled with testing my work to achieve the results I wanted as I reached a blocked road.

I would like to improve in my time management and also manage certain weaknesses like Javascript.

All in all it was quite the experience participating in this project which provided insights on some of my strengths and weaknesses.

Freda-Marie Beecham

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Individual Reflection Report

I was the project manager for this project and I also worked on the backend team. A few features I worked on include the reporting of both lost and found items as well as user authentication, which includes the login and sign up actions. I had to ensure that when users report an item to be missing it would reflect as a new record in the database and that the images that were uploaded will also be attached with the reported items. This functionality was done for all the lost and found items. I also worked on the administrator side of the website. This included the display of all items that are lost, found and claimed as well as changing the status of an item. This administrator will also have an overview of all the activities users have done. One main challenge I had was with uploading the images with the reporting forms. I had never worked with images when I learned about databases so trying to modify the PHP code to accept images was a challenge. I also struggled greatly with using prepared statements even though it helps against SQL injections.

One lesson I have learned has to do with time management. There were many things I could've done had I understood the PHP concepts some more but because I did not engage with the content enough and I did not spend time practising I faced many errors which I shouldn't have faced. I have also come to see the importance of group work in doing projects like these. My strengths lie in backend development and not frontend development so it was good that I had people on my team I could learn some skills from.

Sandra Nettey

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Individual Reflection Report

As a backend developer, the key features I worked on were database interactions and the logic of the web app. I worked on the search feature allowing users to search for items using keywords. I worked on the user dashboard displaying the necessary statistics and latest items that users had on the platform. This feature allows the user to know how many items have been reported found, lost or claimed. I worked on the individual search for both the lost and found items from their respective tables to allow separation of concerns and easy tracing of items. As part of this search page feature, I implemented filters and sorting to ensure that users can easily find items on this page enhancing user experience. I worked on the item details page displaying all the required details of a particular item.

I tried to use PHPUnit to conduct my test however, it didn't work well. The PHP unit testing is the most challenging part of this web application as I was having issues with the mysql connections. The most important algorithm implemented is the filtering algorithm. This allows users to filter by item category and location where the location options are limited to famous locations on campus however with an input field to type and search for any location desired. This keyword search makes it easy to cater for all possible locations without burdening the options dropdown button. I also implemented functionality to help users sort

by newest added, oldest added which is sorting by dates and sorting by alphabetical order. I learnt how to integrate both html,css and javascript together with php. I improve my folder organisation skills. I learnt how to do basic tests with PHPUnit. One lesson is to separate concerns in my future applications to make it easier for my peers to interact and understand my portion of the code.