

COMP 405: Platform Based Application Development
Final Project

Due: Wednesday, May 25, 2016

For this project, you will be building your own social networking application using Bootstrap and Ruby on Rails. It is expected that you use git for version control (trust me, it will make your life a lot easier). Upon completing your project, you will be deploying it to Heroku^[1] so you can have a live URL.

Your site should include the following core capabilities:

- Users should be able to sign up^[2] for an account (The sign up process should require a first name, last name, school, email address, and password. Feel free to add additional fields, such as, job, birthdate, etc. as well)
- Users should belong to a school and a school can have many users
- Users can create posts after signing up
- Users can comment on posts (their own posts and other users' posts)
- Users should be able to find other users (from both their school and from other schools)
- Users can follow other users (they should only see the users that they are following show up in their news feed)^[3]

Your site must also include one or more of the following optional features below:

- Users can 'like' or 'unlike' posts^[4]
- Users can see a 'Recent Activity' log of what they have recently done on the site (liked, commented, etc.)^[5]
- Users can upload a profile picture/avatar (you may want to consider using Amazon S3 if you want your assets to save permanently on heroku)^[6, 7]
- Users will receive a confirmation/welcome email upon signing up^[8]

Useful links:

1. <https://devcenter.heroku.com/articles/getting-started-with-rails4>
2. <https://github.com/plataformatec/devise>
3. https://github.com/tcocca/acts_as_follower
4. https://github.com/ryanto/acts_as_votable
5. See documentation for #3 (this capability is built in to acts_as_votable)
6. <https://github.com/thoughtbot/paperclip>
7. Heroku clears out the application's file storage system, so images that are uploaded with paperclip will not be saved long term. To get around this, many people prefer to store their assets (images) in S3 and then reference the URL in the code. Here is a simple S3 video tutorial:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_2VBDooowHs
8. http://guides.rubyonrails.org/action_mailer_basics.html