School of Computing  
CA326 Year 3 Project Proposal Form

**SECTION A**

Project Title: Roommate Recommender App

Student 1 Name: Georgina Scanlon ID Number: 19392373

Student 2 Name: Rhea Varkey ID Number: 19452962

Staff Member Consulted for supervision: Michael Scriney

Project Description (2 pages max)

**Introduction**

Finding affordable accommodation has been a growing problem in Dublin city and for many people who are willing to share accommodation with others, there are few easy ways for them to find suitable roommates.

Our project aims to help these people find a roommate who may share similar interests and personalities within their budget and living within their desired location. We also aim to offer a platform for those looking to share their accommodation to likewise find a suitable roommate as well as inform them of the approximate amount they should consider charging.

**Outline**

Our project is a web app directed towards people looking to find a roommate for either their own accommodation or to move in with.

Our project will be composed of:

* A database to store users’ data and preferences which will be used to match them as best as possible to other users
* A backend REST service to get and display matches to the user.
* A front-end UI as the face of the app. It will be important that design is simple to understand for the user and that information provided by the REST service is displayed coherently.

**Background**

We got this idea by looking at different places to rent in Dublin. As you can imagine renting in Dublin is not cheap and often requires two or more occupants AKA roommates to split the rent between in order to have a roof over your head without scrambling for cash or opting for a loan.

Most of the time your roommate is someone you know or your assigned one in student accommodations, but this is not the case if you are outside student accommodations or you are a graduate looking for a place to stay. When looking for a roommate people often write up ads or hang up posters which is pretty time consuming and requires a lot of energy or you might not have many engagements with your ad. And most apps or websites that set you up with a potential roommate often have vague information, not many recent users or even the fact that the app or website is generally not the best to navigate around.

That where the idea for our project came along, it helps students like us or any recent graduate who has the paycheck to afford rent find roommates who have the similar goal and interests as us in a quick and easy way and you can take your time going through each profile to see if they are a right fit for you and all you need to do this sign up and say what type of roommate you want as well as the amount of rent you and your roommates need to provide.

**Goals**

The aim of the roommate recommender is to allow people looking to rent a room find suitable accommodation and roommate and to help someone to find a roommate to share their current accomodation.

The main feature for someone who is looking to find a new accommodation is that they'll be able to submit information about themselves and their preferences and the app will use that to find suitable roommates for them.

For someone looking to rent out their accommodation, they can similarly submit information about themselves and the accommodation so that it can be matched with a suitable roommate.

Once a user has accepted a matching roommate, the app will send each of the users contact details of the other so that they can get in touch with each other. If after this stage they decide not to go forward with becoming roommates, each user will have the option to either keep their accommodation available or view other matches.

**Programming language(s) and tools**

Backend:

* *Django*
* *SQL*
* *Python*

Frontend:

* *HTML5*
* *CSS3*
* *JavaScript*
* *NodeJS*

**Breakdown of work**

**Rhea**

Will design the majority of the front-end UI and work on testing after each new feature is added.

**Georgina:**

Will design the majority of the backend, including the database and the API endpoints for use on the front-end.