

Final Report

Team: Course Warriors

Project: RateMyCourse

Over the course of this semester, Team CourseWarriors has attempted to create a web application called RateMyCourse. RateMyCourse is intended to be a tool to help construct an academic schedule for students at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The website would have information each course offered at CU Boulder based on FCQ information found from the excel sheets provided by the university. Currently, RateMyCourse has been almost completely constructed.

RateMyCourse is a functional website complete with user-friendly components such as a search engine, simple lists of courses, and visualization tools i.e. graphs and charts. The search engine is a live search engine that remembers common searches. A user can search for his/her course by name (i.e. Software Development Methods and Tools), acronym (i.e. CSCI 3308), or keyword (i.e. software). After the user enters the search, RateMyCourse redirects the user to a list of courses. Each course in the list is also a link to another results page. When the user clicks on a course, he/she will be redirected into a page that is dedicated to the course. This page holds FCQ information about the course that the user selects. The page has charts for the grade distribution and course difficulty as well as scales for the average hours spent per week and the overall course rating. Overall, the website is successfully built and is a useful tool for any student at CU Boulder. However, there are some issues that the Team CourseWarriors have yet to mend.

The issues with the RateMyCourse application include the uncompleted components of the site and the website not being live. Originally RateMyCourse was intended to have a user review and a professor rating per course, but these components were not implemented. Although, Team CourseWarriors had desired to have a user inputted review system, it would have required writing the user reviews to RateMyCourse database. This means that the database would have had to be dynamically increased and none of the CourseWarriors knew how to navigate this task. Also, the CourseWarriors had planned to have a professor rating available for each professor and course. However, this was yet another task that was not possible due to the lack of knowledge of the SQL and the lack of time. Therefore, after many hours of struggling with the two tasks, the team decided that it would be best to spend more time on other components of the website. Another issue of the RateMyCourse application is the fact that the website is not currently hosted; in other words, the website is not live for students to use. However, the team has a future plan to help navigate through these issues listed.

As there are uncompleted components and lack of a host for the RateMyCourse application, the Team CourseWarriors have constructed a plan. For the user review input, the Team CourseWarriors will utilize SQL material online to learn more about adding information to the database dynamically. As the team no longer has a time constraint, learning more in-depth about SQL will not be a problem. Next, for the professor ratings, all that is needed is another table constructed in Google Cloud that is connected to the prime table in the RateMyCourse Database. Finally, for hosting the site, Team CourseWarriors has decided to find a cheap host and make the website available for all CU Boulder students. Overall, Team CourseWarriors is very satisfied with the state of RateMyCourse and is excited for what the future holds for the site.