Project Charter

Coder Academy Talent Board MERN Web Application

Objectives

As a team of three, produce a prototype online talent board that showcases the profiles of Coder Academy students to prospective employers, startups and clients within the tech industry.

Minimally Viable Prototype functionalities

- Students can create an account
- Student account authentication
- Students can upload their contact details, website addresses, photograph, industries of interests
- Guests and the general public can browse and search for students based on a range of parameters (industries of interest, hire-ability)

Rationale for the prototype

- To help Coder Academy students reduce their gap between completing coursework and finding meaningful employment as junior developers
- To facilitate employers, startups, clients in seeking skilled, affordable web development talent
- To consolidate, practice and measure the learning outcomes of three full-time Coder Academy bootcamp students

Constraints

Technology Constraints
To meet the academic rubric of this project, the development team cannot negotiate on the choice of tech stack, which are: Mongo database, ExpressJS, NodeJS, React.

Timeframe
The minimally viable product functionalities are shaped around the development timeframe of 17 full days. This timeframe is non-negotiable and must be met by 25 July 2019.

Lack of Experience
The team consists of three full-time students who have only been exposed to the technologies for less than six weeks and have not had prior work experience in the industry.

The lack of experience combined with compressed development timeframe limits the MVP functionalities of the project.

Unable to Participate in Non-Disclosure Agreements
As the development of this project is tied to an assessment task the team must be able to submit their assessment for grading, and subsequently will not be able to enter into any non-disclosure agreements.

Key stakeholders

Coder Academy
A talent board showcasing its graduates will be exceptionally valuable to Coder Academy in order to gain a stronger reputation in the market. Future applicants would be able to see the range of students and their skillsets that graduate from the Academy's course offerings.

Students of Coder Academy – past, present and future
Since many students of Coder Academy are career-changers, a talent board dedicated to spruiking their work and hireability will be an attractive option.

Scope

Development time is 8 July 2019 to 25 July 2019 inclusive.

The team consists of three student developers – Jack Walker, Raphael Plaschnick, Rachel Wong.

This three-man team engages the pro bono services of Mr Damian Maclennan who acts as project client.

The team aims to deliver a functioning prototype that meets the minimally viable product (MVP) criteria as approved by our instructor, Mr Matthew Etherington and recorded in this project documentation (user stories, trello board, etc). The MVP criteria forms the baseline requirements for this project and designed with both the academic rubric and timeline in mind.

If the MVP criteria has been met, the team may progress onto other optional "nice-to-have" features.

It is worthy to note that the final deliverable will not be released to market for live use.

Risk Management

Client unavailability
As our client Mr Damian McClennan operates off-site, the team has considered the likelihood that he may become unavailable during the two-week development period due to work commitments, sickness, other personal matters.

In such instances, the team will maintain two-way communication with the client as regularly as possible (morning stand-ups) to keep all parties up-to-date as to movements.

Losing Development Personnel
The development team consists of three full time Coder Academy students, committed to class attendance from 10am to 4pm from Monday to Friday, weekends negotiable.

If one or more team members become unavailable to participate (i.e. sickness), this will have severe impact upon the progress and ultimately delivery of the project. In such instances, the team will reconvene with the client and CA instructor Mr Matt Etherington to re-scope the project and agree on new deliverables.

Third party services Outage (Cloud storage, Cloud Database and Deployment Platform)
The project uses cloud services provided by Cloudinary and Amazon Web Services for database and static asset storage. Heroku and Netlify are used as deployment platforms.

Where third party services suffer unexpected, pro-long downage (i.e. for more than a day during development, or for more than one hour on deadline day), the team will consider redeploying to other third party services including

- Azure
- PostgreSQL for a local back-up database

Security breaches

As students are able to submit personal identifying details including name, contact information onto this online talent board, the team recognises that security against potential data leaks is top priority.

Data integrity, database back-up and security firewalls will form part of the team's consideration during development.

Force Majeure Clause

The team recognises that even with the best of intentions behind mitigating risks, there will always be unforeseen factors beyond reasonable prevention (i.e. civil unrest, extreme weather).

The team will not be considered as being in breach of this Project Charter in the event a force majeure event could not be reasonably foreseen or mitigated.

Client engagement – communication

Contact with client is agreed to be a once-day stand-up in the morning via Slack.

Other ad hoc communication is limited strictly to project critical issues, which will be decided by team consensus.

Project benefits

This prototype can demonstrate how Coder Academy and its graduating students can present themselves to prospective employers, clients and the industry in general in a structured, professional portal. This can help raise the Academy's industry profile while giving students much needed market exposure to secure graduate employment.

Project Budget and Costs

This project has no monetary budget attached in terms of funding and equipment. The project team is fortunate to be able to engage Mr Damian MacLennan on a pro bono basis as project client.

To demonstrate prototype effectiveness, the team may invest a small temporary budget to purchase lower-tiered cloud storage as back-up storage.

All parties understood and agrees to the terms of this charter.

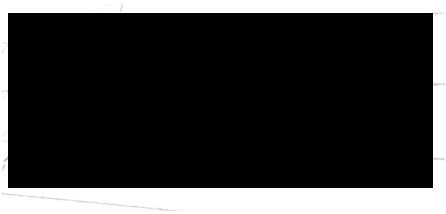
Client Signature

Mr Damian Maclennan

Team Signature

Jack Walker (student)

Raphael Plaschnick (student)



Rachel Wong (student)