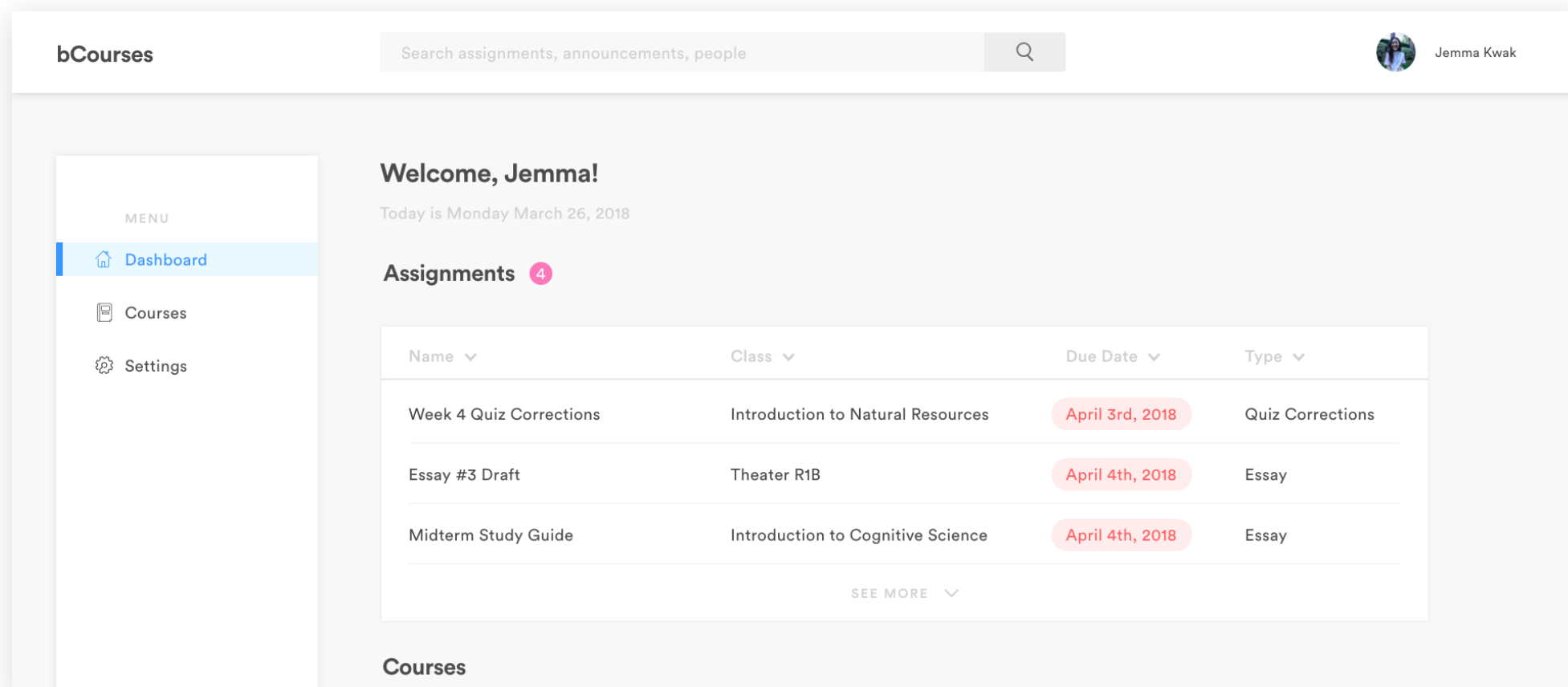


# bCourses Redesign

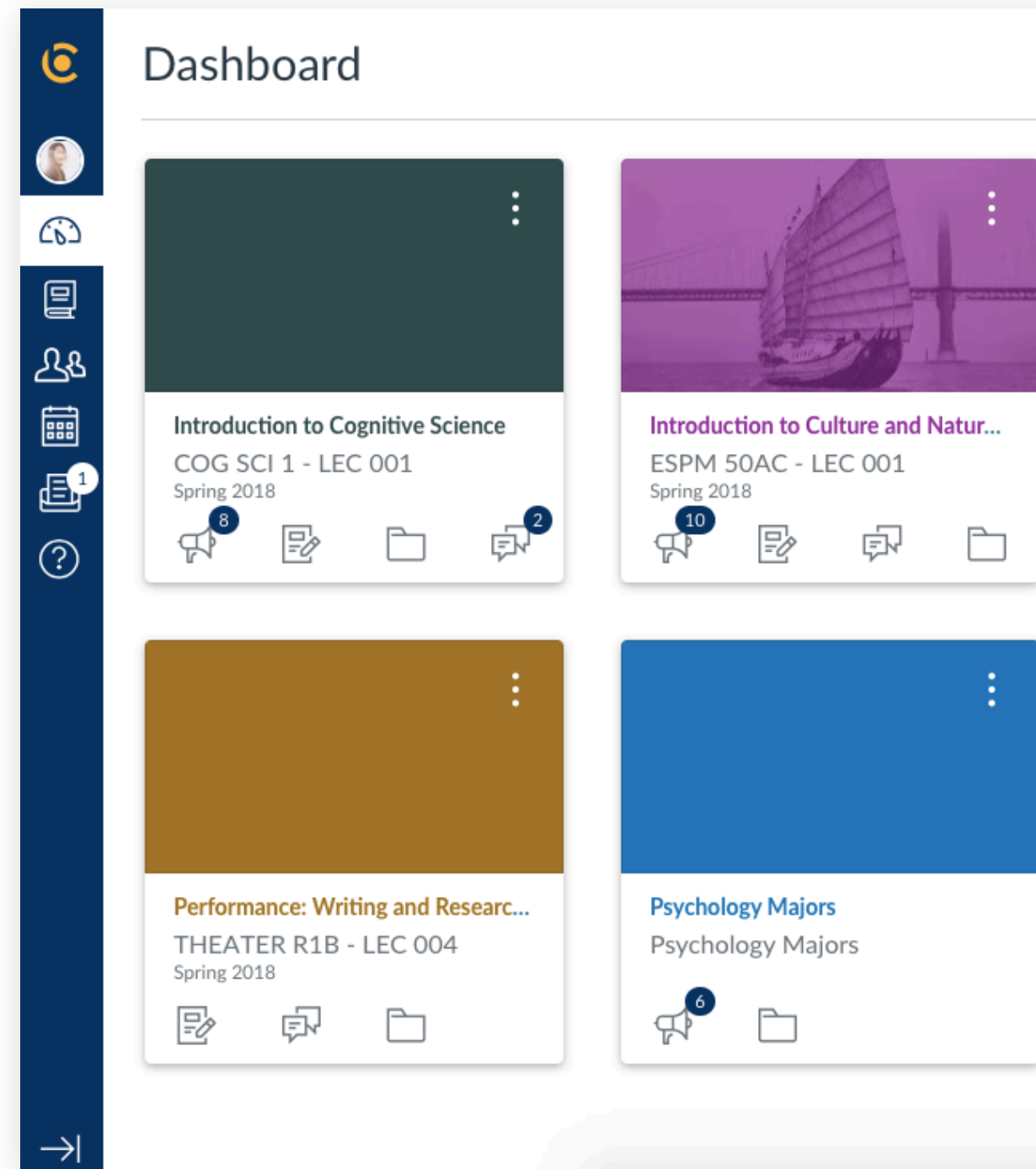
A redesign of Berkeley's **course management** system.



# bCourses Redesign

context

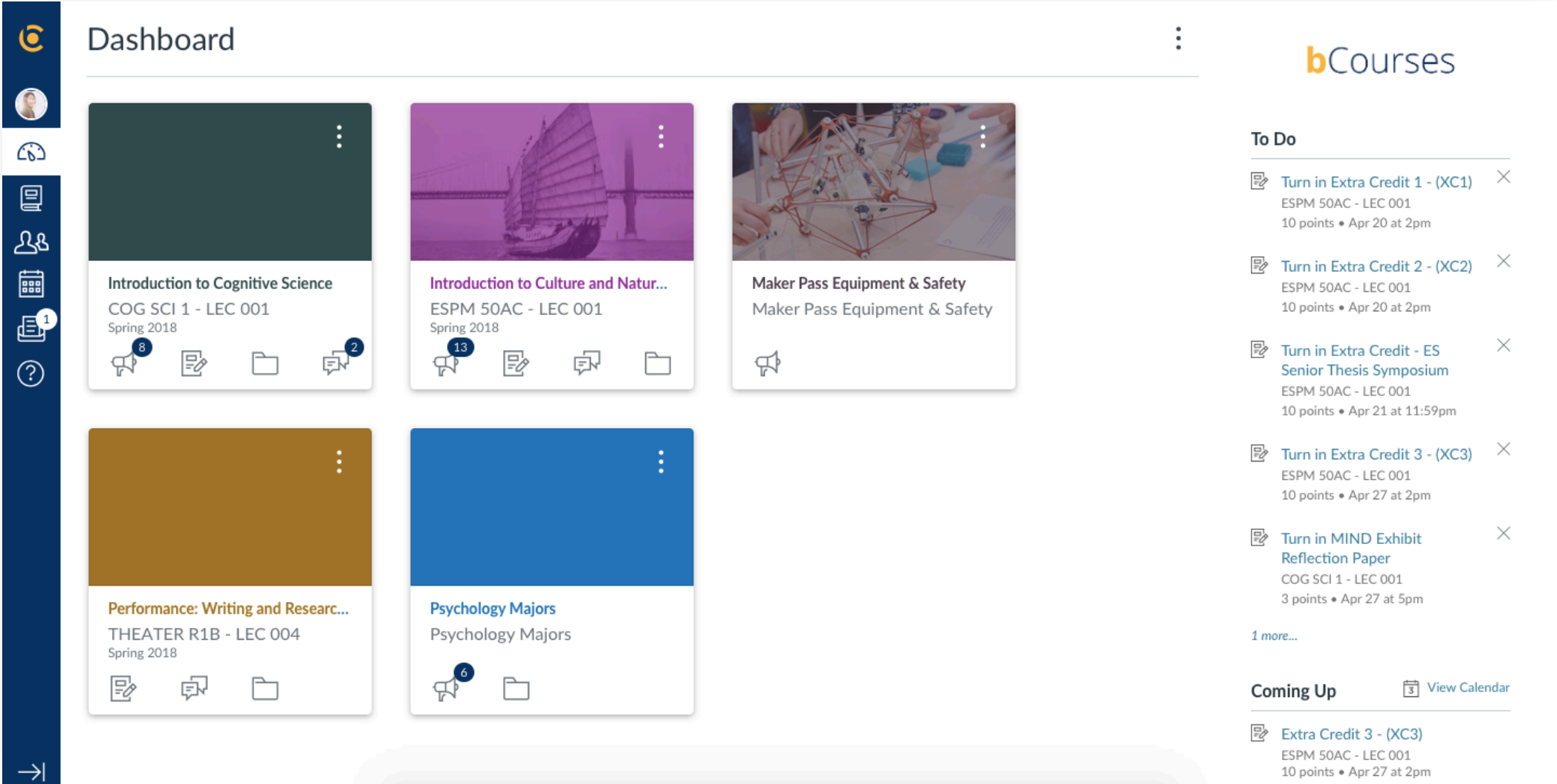
bCourses is Berkeley's student-instructor course management system. Students use the platform to interact with instructors, view readings, see grades, and submit assignments. It stands alone as Berkeley's official platform for students and instructors to interact.



Current Dashboard View

# bCourses Redesign

the problem



Current Dashboard View

# bCourses Redesign

the problem

The screenshot displays the bCourses Redesign interface for a course titled "DES INV 10 - LEC 001". The interface is divided into three main sections: a left sidebar, a central content area, and a right sidebar.

**Left Sidebar:** Contains a navigation menu with the following items: Home (highlighted), Announcements, Assignments, Discussions, Grades, People, Files, Syllabus, Conferences, Collaborations, and Chat. Above the menu, the text "Fall 2017" is visible.

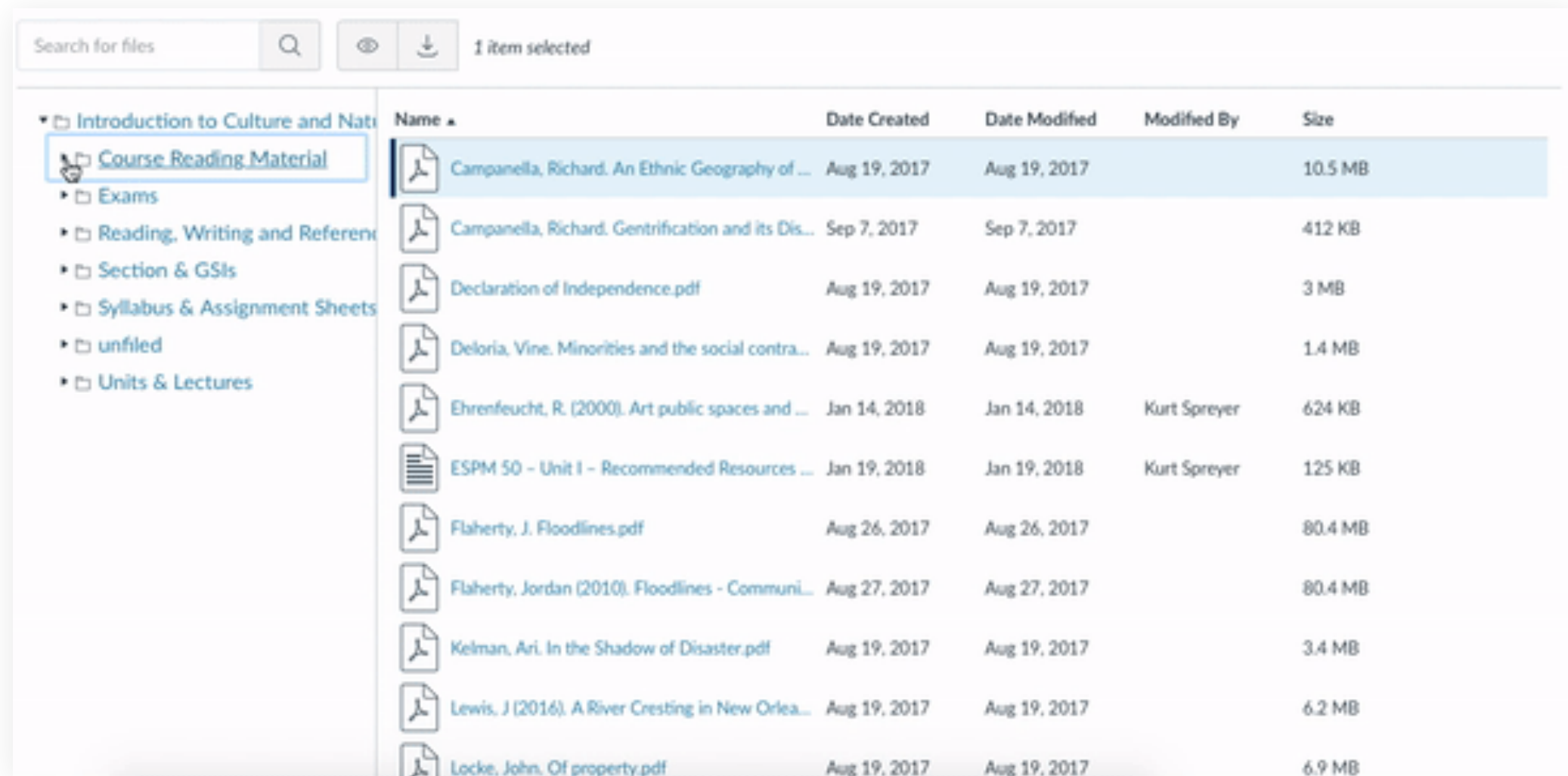
**Central Content Area:** The main heading is "Recent Activity in DES INV 10 - LEC 001". Below this heading, a message box states: "No Recent Messages You don't have any messages to show in your stream yet. Once you begin participating in your courses you'll see this stream fill up with messages from discussions, grading updates, private messages between you and other users, etc." The message box has a blue header bar with a white information icon.

**Right Sidebar:** Contains three sections: "Course Groups" with links for "Team 7" and "Group H"; "Coming Up" with a calendar icon and a link to "View Calendar", followed by the text "Nothing for the next week"; and "Recent Feedback" with the text "Nothing for now".












Current Home View

# bCourses Redesign

the problem



The screenshot shows a file management interface with a search bar at the top left containing the text "Search for files". To the right of the search bar are icons for view (eye) and download (down arrow), and a status indicator "1 item selected". On the left side, a sidebar lists folders: "Introduction to Culture and Nat...", "Course Reading Material" (highlighted with a blue box and a mouse cursor), "Exams", "Reading, Writing and Referenc...", "Section & GSIs", "Syllabus & Assignment Sheets", "unfiled", and "Units & Lectures". The main area displays a table of files.

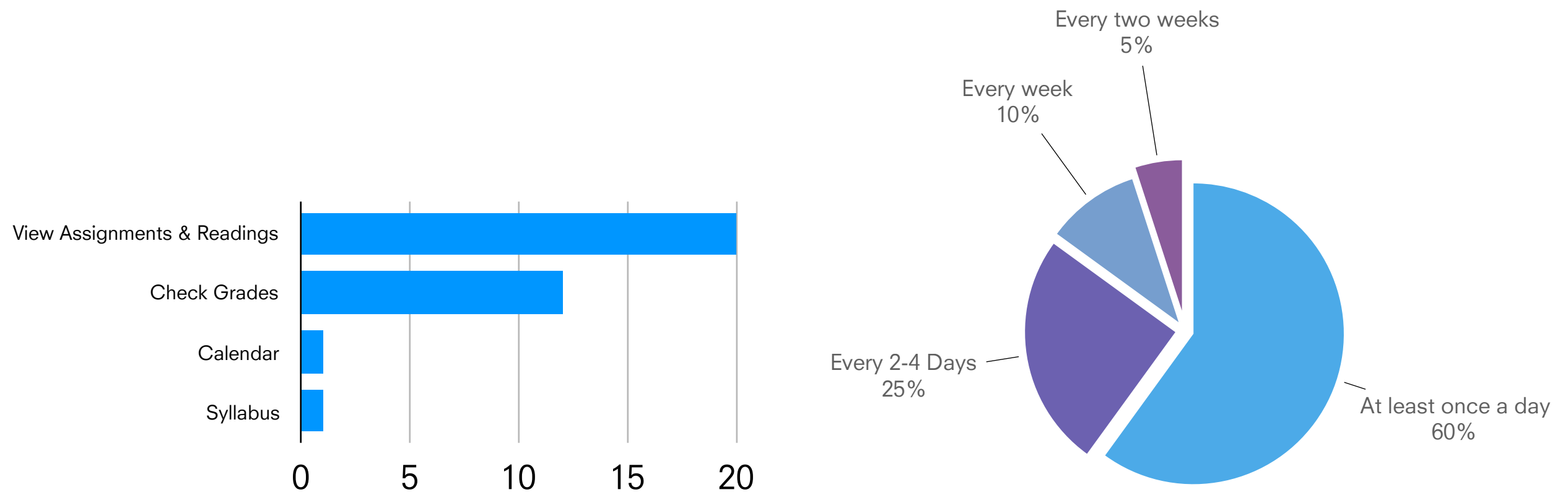
Name	Date Created	Date Modified	Modified By	Size
 Campanella, Richard. An Ethnic Geography of ...	Aug 19, 2017	Aug 19, 2017		10.5 MB
 Campanella, Richard. Gentrification and its Dis...	Sep 7, 2017	Sep 7, 2017		412 KB
 Declaration of Independence.pdf	Aug 19, 2017	Aug 19, 2017		3 MB
 Deloria, Vine. Minorities and the social contra...	Aug 19, 2017	Aug 19, 2017		1.4 MB
 Ehrenfeucht, R. (2000). Art public spaces and ...	Jan 14, 2018	Jan 14, 2018	Kurt Spreyer	624 KB
 ESPM 50 - Unit I - Recommended Resources ...	Jan 19, 2018	Jan 19, 2018	Kurt Spreyer	125 KB
 Flaherty, J. Floodlines.pdf	Aug 26, 2017	Aug 26, 2017		80.4 MB
 Flaherty, Jordan (2010). Floodlines - Communi...	Aug 27, 2017	Aug 27, 2017		80.4 MB
 Kelman, Ari. In the Shadow of Disaster.pdf	Aug 19, 2017	Aug 19, 2017		3.4 MB
 Lewis, J (2016). A River Cresting in New Orlea...	Aug 19, 2017	Aug 19, 2017		6.2 MB
 Locke, John. Of property.pdf	Aug 19, 2017	Aug 19, 2017		6.9 MB

Current File View

# bCourses Redesign

user research\*

The needs of the users are clear: functionality and features absolutely necessary to their success in classes.



\*A survey of 20 students using bCourses.

# bCourses Redesign

user research\*

## 1 Idle Features

Users noted they tended to not use features such as calendar and inbox, stating they already had established methods and mediums for carrying out this functionality.

**“I already use calendar and just email my professors. Why should I do it on bCourses?”**

## 2 Lack of Clarity

Students noted the lack of clarity across the main features of bCourses— this included file search, course distinction, and assignment submissions.

**“I find it really difficult to find certain files. There are too many tabs and they’re all too small.”**

# bCourses Redesign

user research\*

## 3 Building Community

Lots of students noted that they did not use the Groups feature, but wanted a better way to use the platform to connect with students and faculty in the class.

**“I want to be able to contact people in my classes, but I don’t know how.”**

## 4 Aesthetics and Feel

Many students noted that bCourses UI felt clunky and out-of-date. A major part of the redesign was to align the user interface up to speed with more modern design trends.

**“The site looks old which makes me not want to use it at all.”**



# bCourses Redesign

defining the problem

How might we streamline crucial interactions that aid student success?

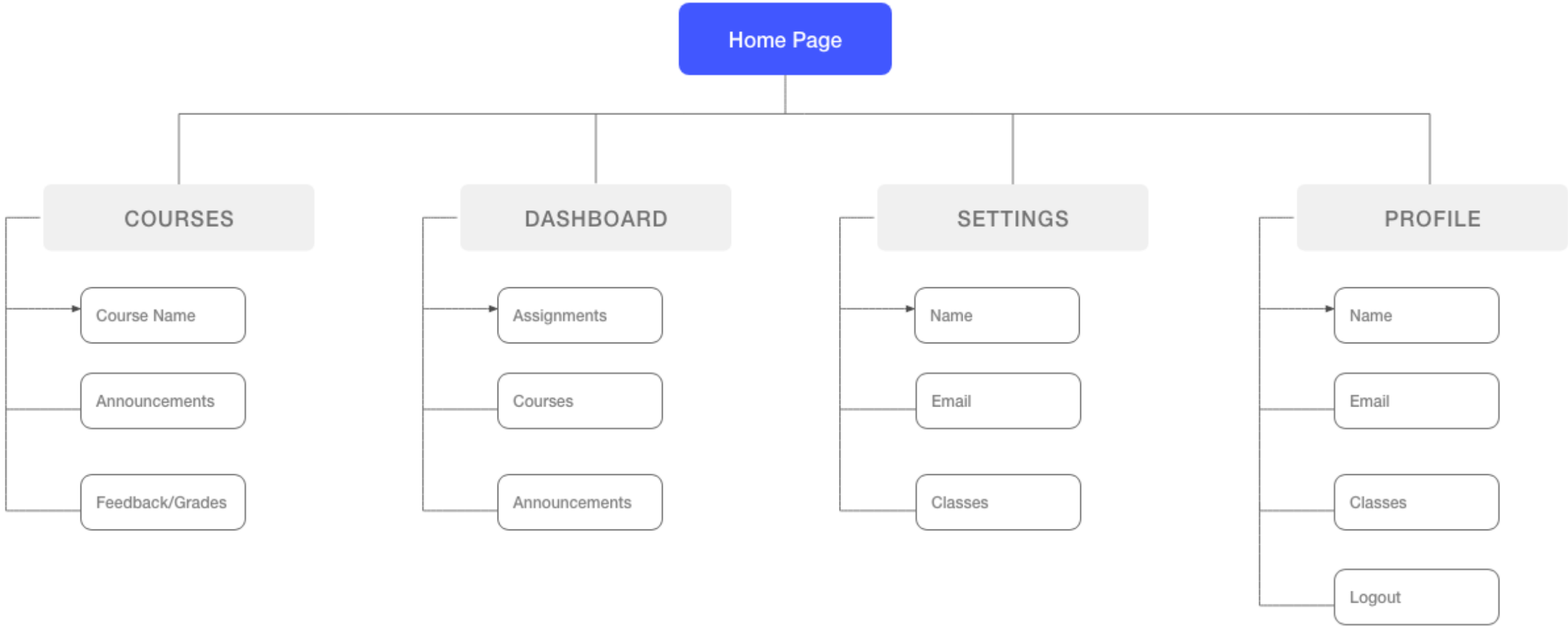
# bCourses Redesign

## redesign goals

- 1 **Streamline**  
Increase ease of access and flow of files, assignments, grades, and submission.
- 2 **Centralize**  
Concentrate pertinent interactions and student priorities into a clear, singular dashboard.
- 3 **Update**  
Bring site aesthetics up to speed with current visual trends and patterns.

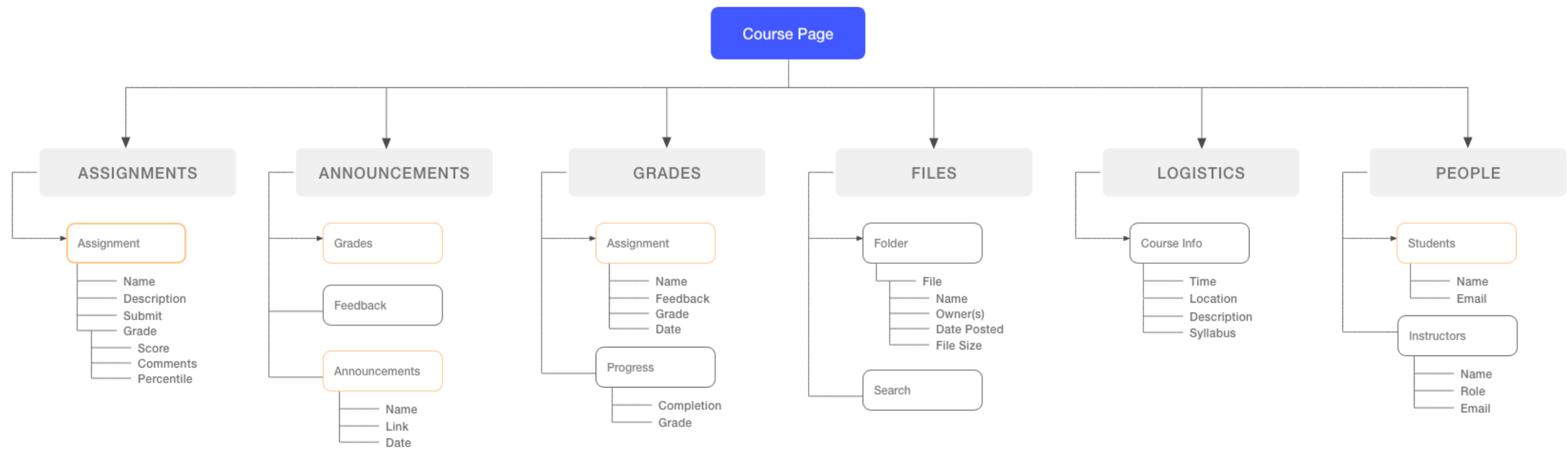
# bCourses Redesign

user flow



# bCourses Redesign

user flow



# bCourses Redesign

mid-fidelity

- 1

## Assignments

A centralized location for the most recently assigned work.
- 2

## Courses

Easy access and viewing for each course a student is enrolled in.
- 3

## Updates

The most recent announcements in a centralized location.

Jane Doe

Psychology '20

Dashboard

Courses

Settings

Welcome, Jane!

Today is Monday March 26, 2018

Assignments 4

1

Assignment Name	Class	Due Date	Assignment Type
Week 4 Quiz	ESPM 50AC	• Dec 12	Quiz
Essay #3 First Draft	THEATER R1B	• Dec 12	Written Submission
Midterm Vocab Questions	COG SCI 1	• Dec 12	Written Submission

SEE MORE

2

Courses

COG SCI 1

Introduction to Cognitive Science

2 assignments 1 announcement 3 new files

ESPM 50AC

Introduction to Natural Resource Management

2 assignments 1 announcement 3 new files

THEATER R1B

Performance: Writing and Research

2 assignments 1 announcement 3 new files

CS 61B

Data Structures and Algorithms

2 assignments 1 announcement 3 new files

3

Updates 3

Announcement	Class	Date	Update Type
Midterm 1 Grades Released!	ESPM 50AC	• Mar 15	Grades
Essay #3 First Draft	THEATER R1B	• Mar 14	File Upload
Midterm Vocab Questions	COG SCI 1	• Mar 11	Written Submission

SEE MORE

New Dashboard View

# bCourses Redesign

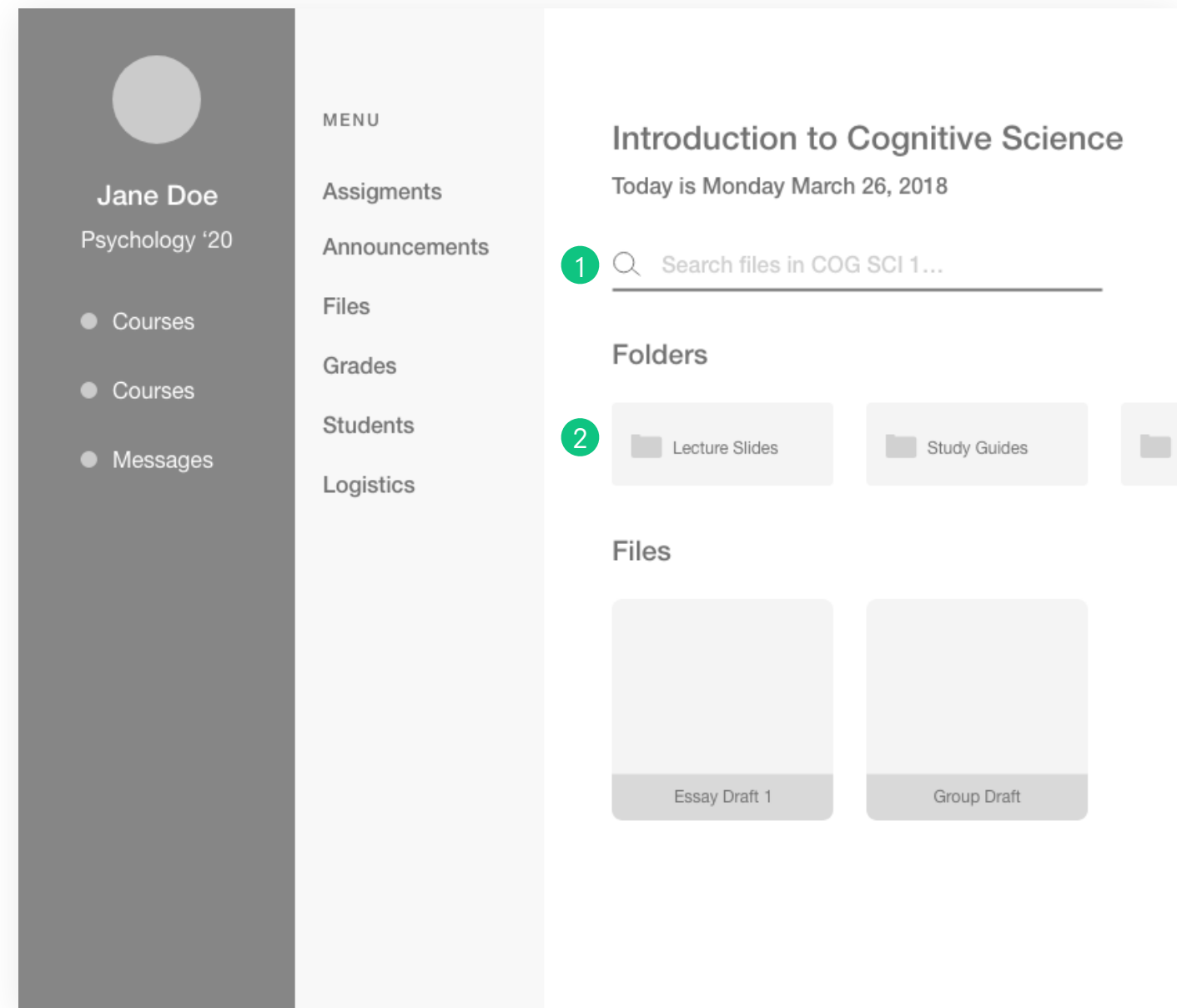
mid-fidelity

## 1 Visible Search

File search that appears immediately to the user, as opposed to hidden in the file

## 2 Folders & Files

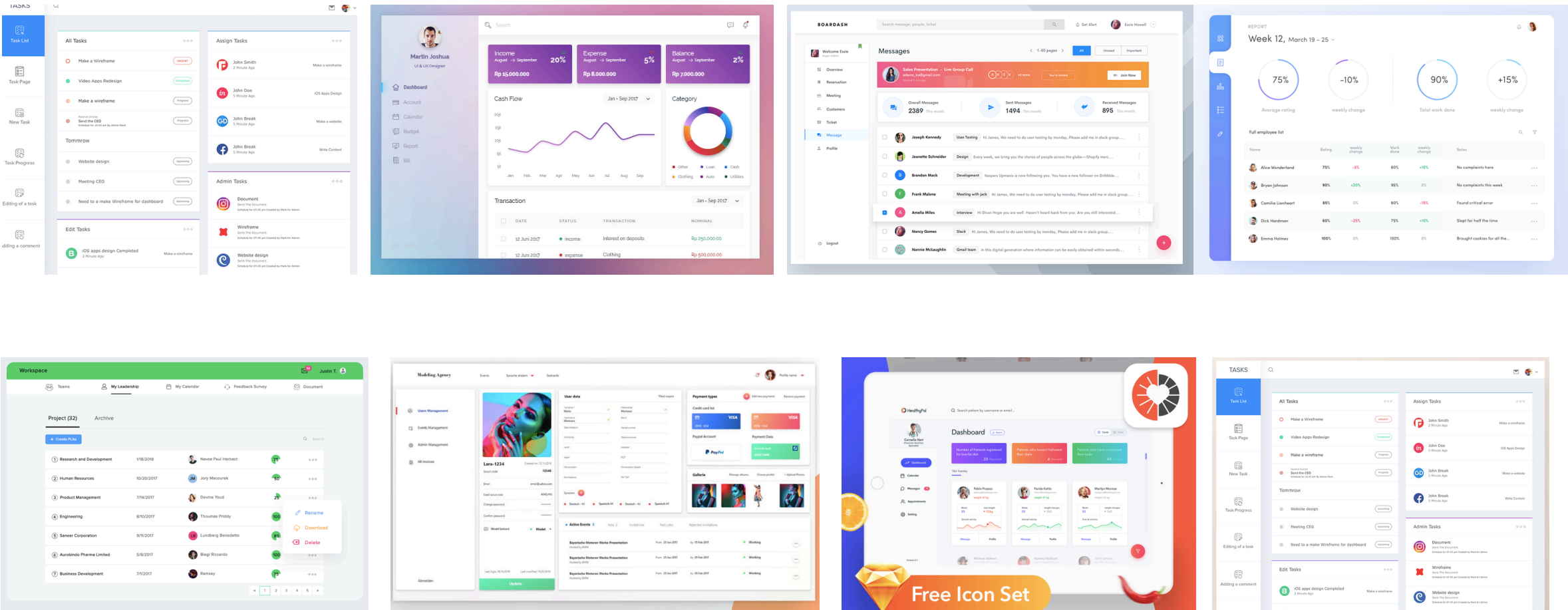
Folders and files in an more intuitive, GUI, much like Google Drive's organization.



New File View

# bCourses Redesign

## UI inspiration



# bCourses Redesign

## style guide

### TYPOGRAPHY

#### Header 1

Circular Bold 32pt

#### Header 2

Circular Bold 28pt

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,

Circular Book 20pt

### COLORS



#4B4B4B



#3894FF



#FF57AB



#33E833



#707070



#FF9446



#6433E8



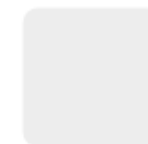
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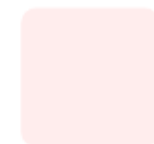
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#4A4C6E



#EDEDED

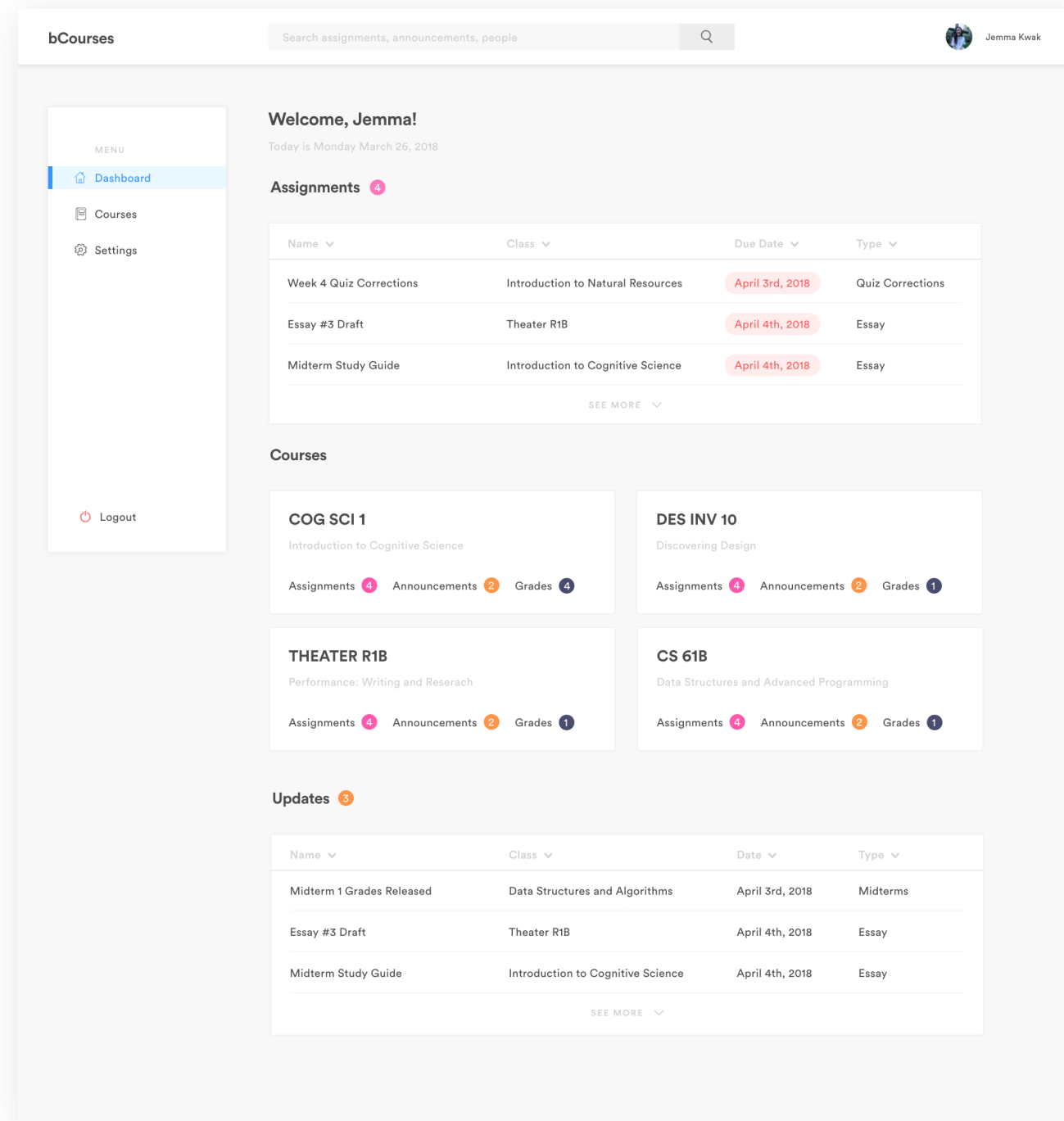


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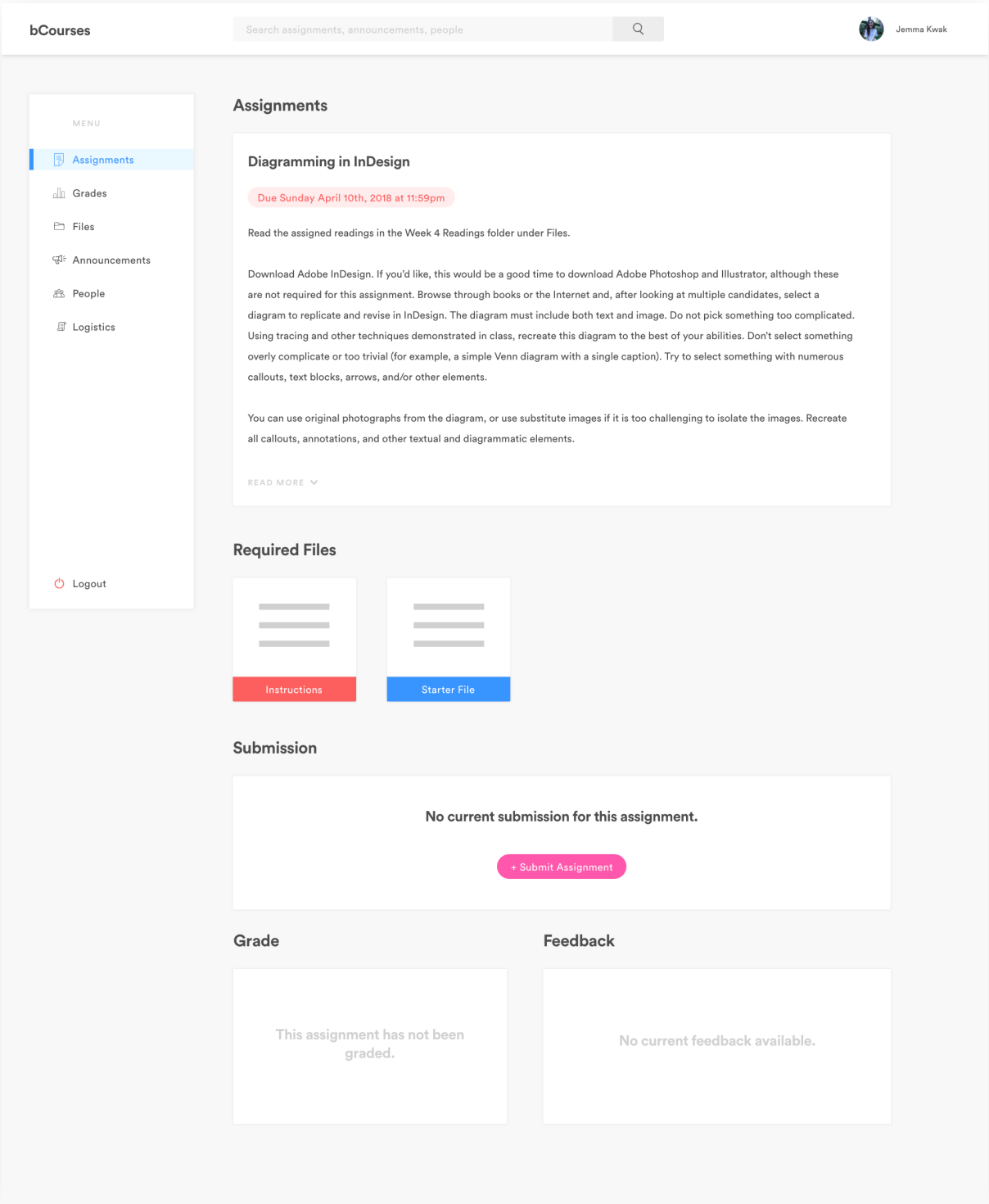
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



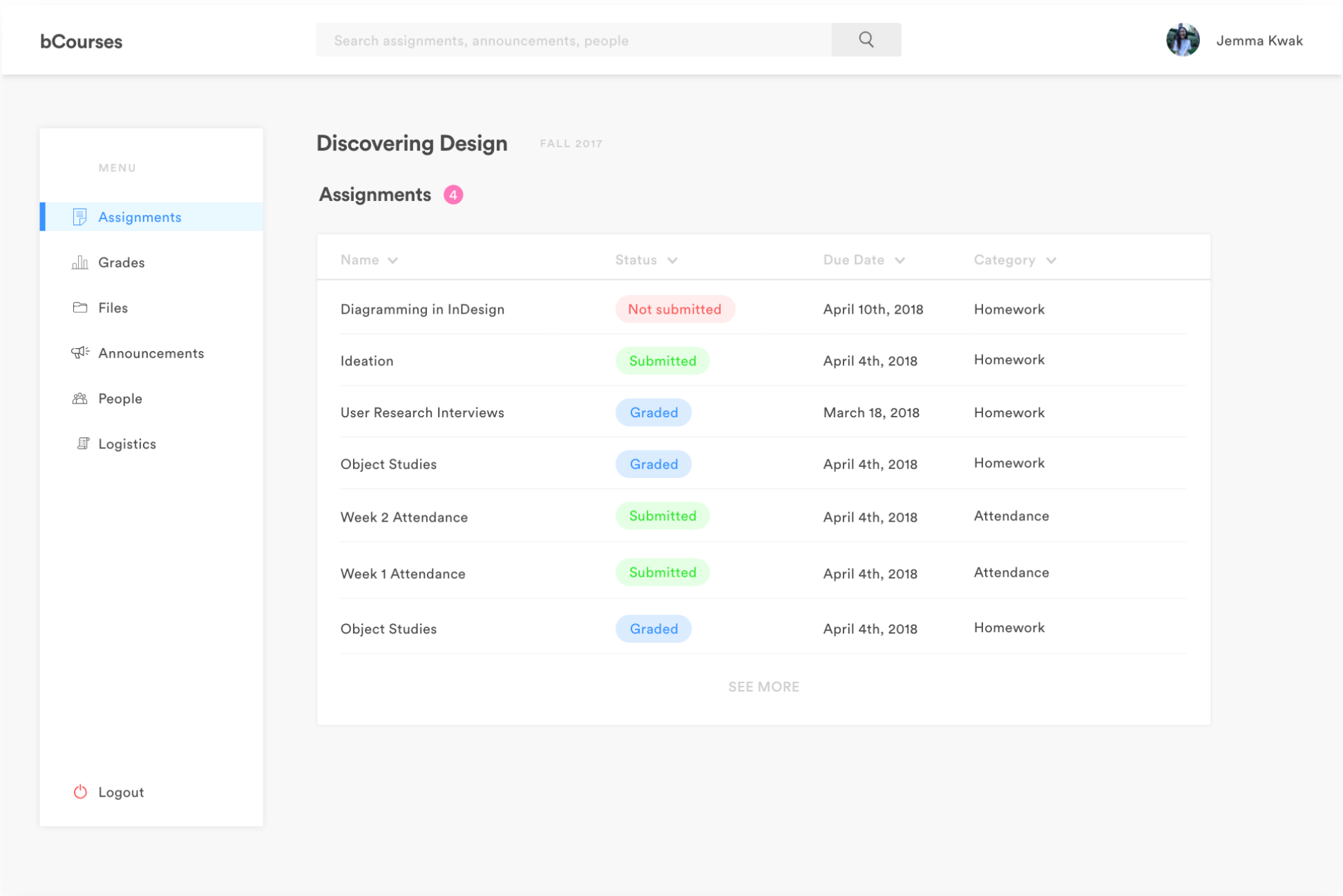
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



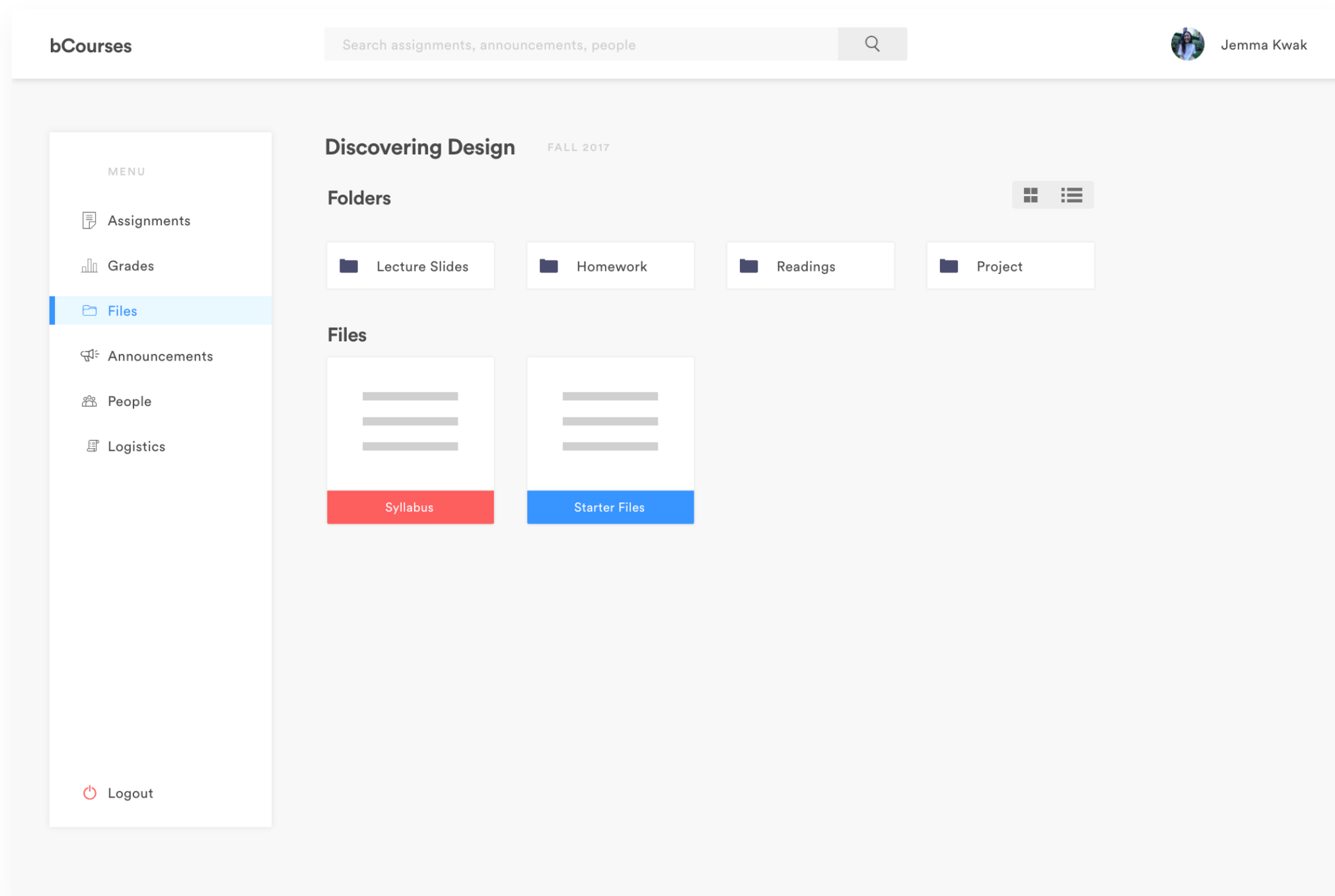
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



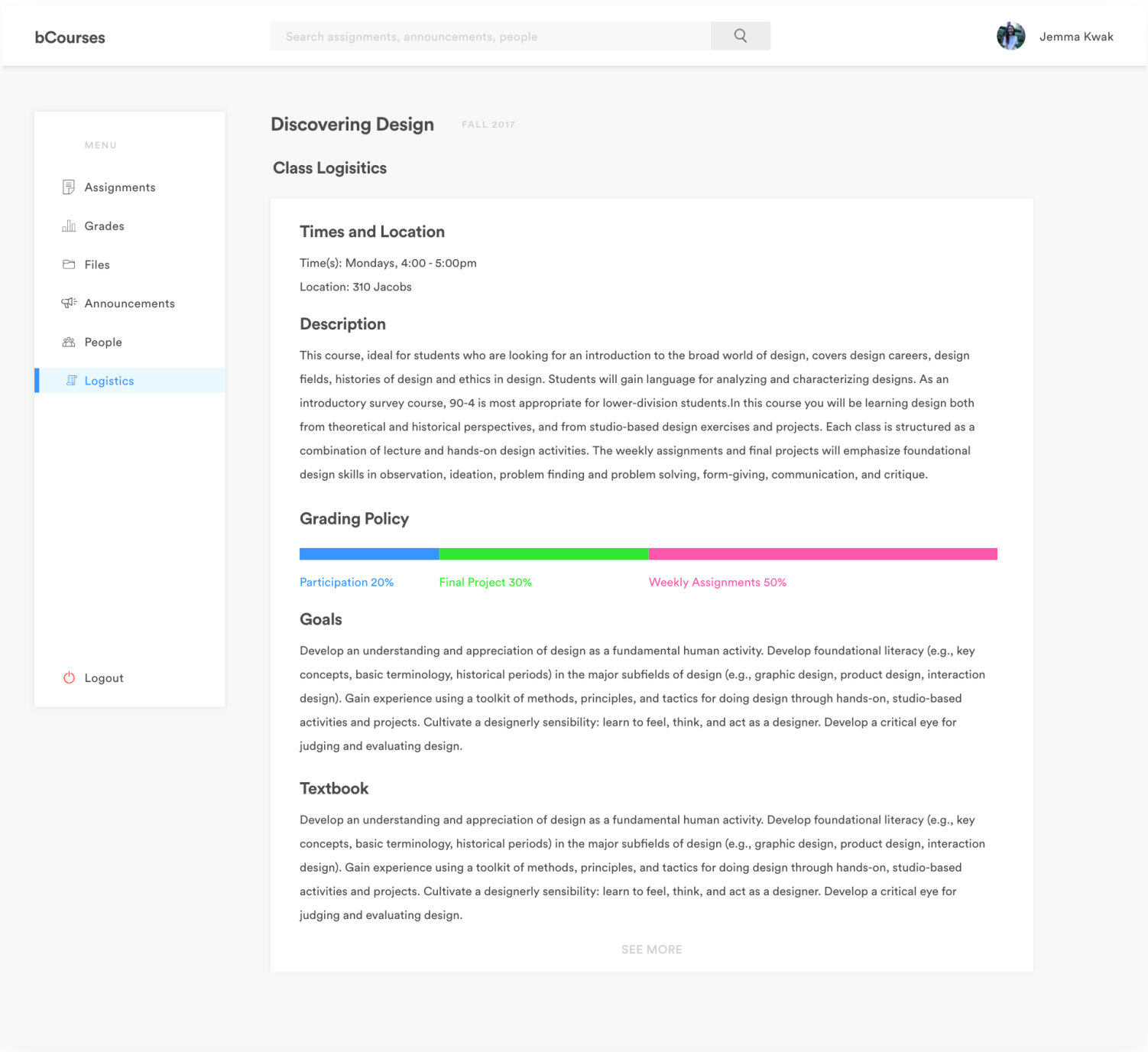
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



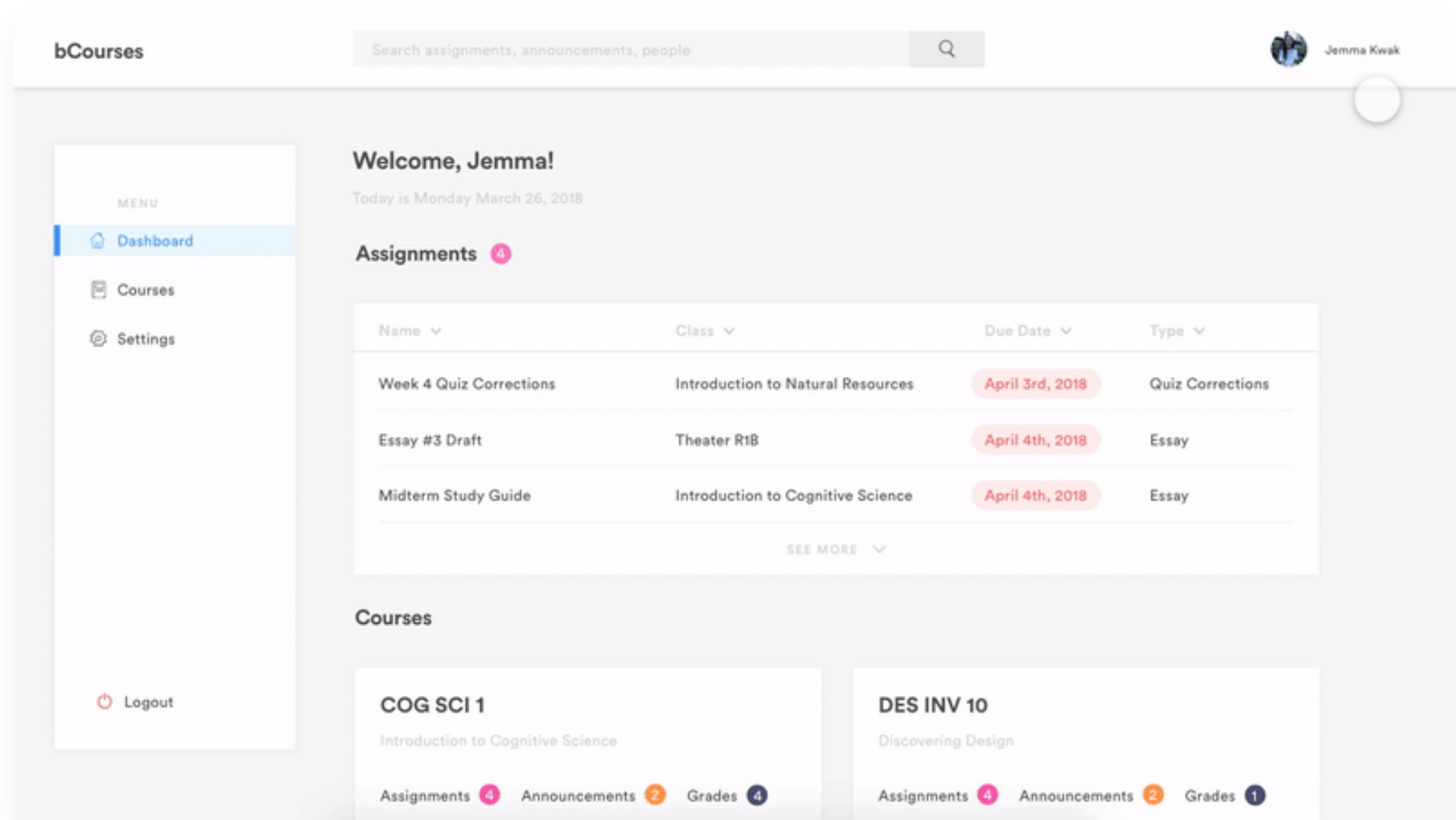
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



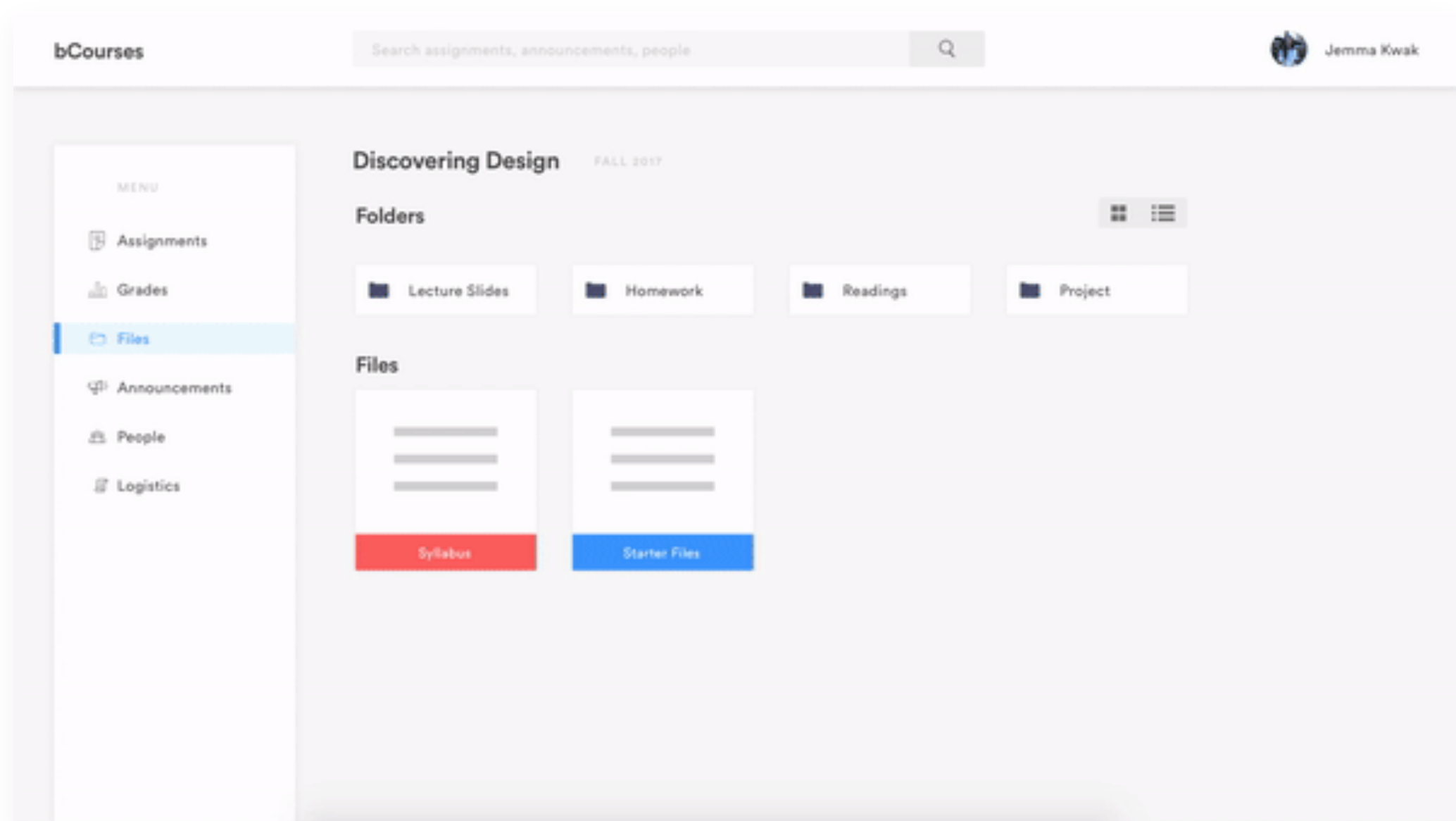
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



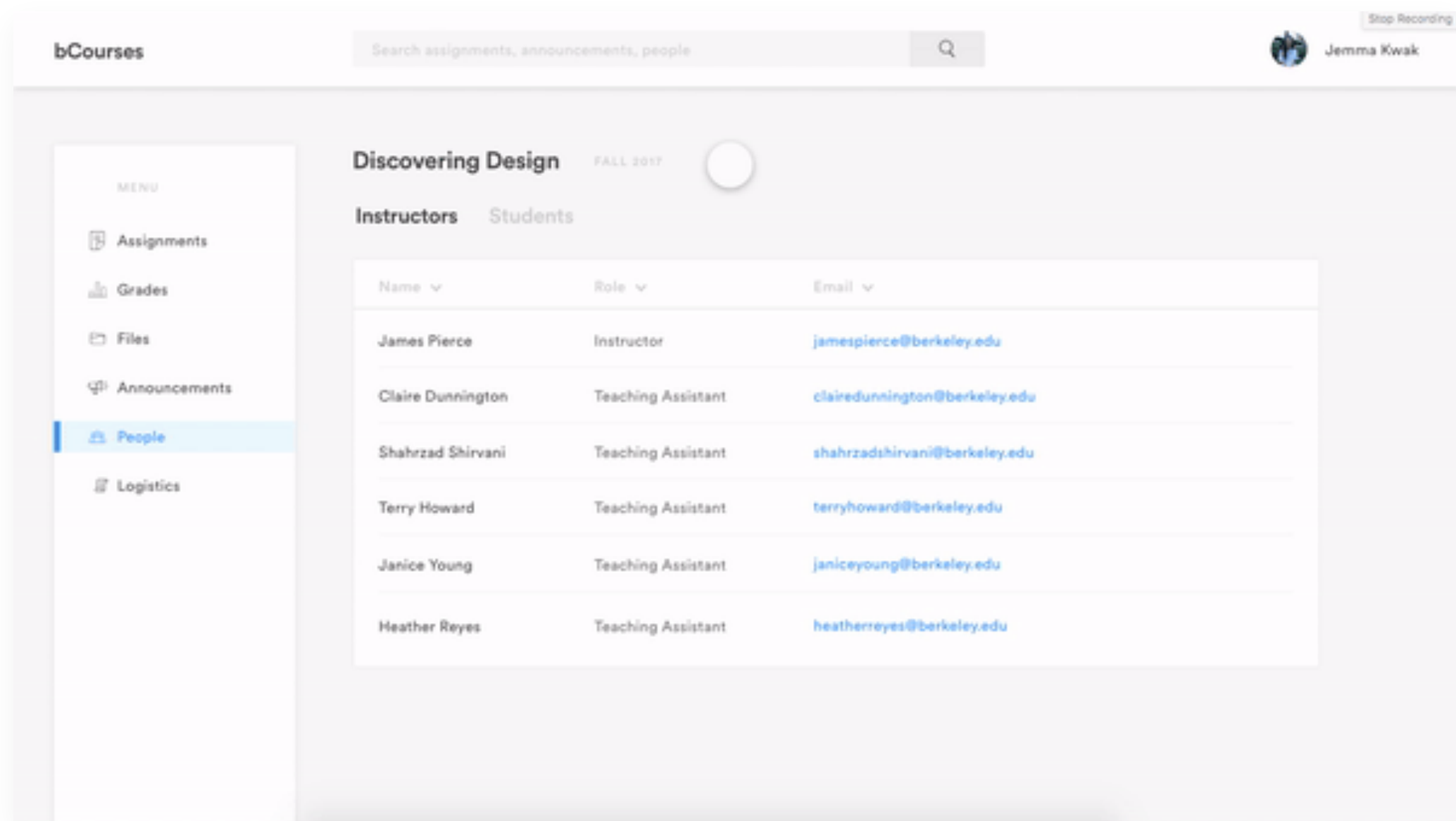
# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



# bCourses Redesign

high fidelity



A high-fidelity mockup of the bCourses Redesign interface. The interface features a top navigation bar with the 'bCourses' logo, a search bar for assignments, announcements, and people, and a user profile for Jemma Kwak with a 'Stop Recording' button. A left sidebar contains a 'MENU' with icons and labels for Assignments, Grades, Files, Announcements, People (highlighted), and Logistics. The main content area is titled 'Discovering Design' for 'FALL 2017' and includes tabs for 'Instructors' and 'Students'. Below these tabs is a table listing the course staff.

Name ▾	Role ▾	Email ▾
James Pierce	Instructor	<a href="mailto:jamespierce@berkeley.edu">jamespierce@berkeley.edu</a>
Claire Dunnington	Teaching Assistant	<a href="mailto:clairedunnington@berkeley.edu">clairedunnington@berkeley.edu</a>
Shahrazad Shirvani	Teaching Assistant	<a href="mailto:shahrazadshirvani@berkeley.edu">shahrazadshirvani@berkeley.edu</a>
Terry Howard	Teaching Assistant	<a href="mailto:terryhoward@berkeley.edu">terryhoward@berkeley.edu</a>
Janice Young	Teaching Assistant	<a href="mailto:janiceyoung@berkeley.edu">janiceyoung@berkeley.edu</a>
Heather Reyes	Teaching Assistant	<a href="mailto:heatherreyes@berkeley.edu">heatherreyes@berkeley.edu</a>



## bCourses Redesign

### takeaways

Berkeley students are driven and motivated to succeed in their classes, and deserve need a more engaging platform to feel connected to their classes. I loved contributing to solution that could potentially help my fellow peers navigate the complex system that currently exists.