Walkthrough Document - 'Eclipse': Online Discussion Forum

Web Server Link: https://cosc360.ok.ubc.ca/jolos/source_code/home.php

User Information and Role Abilities:

Administrator:	*Non-Admin Users*:	*Not Logged In:*
bobby@gmail.com 360Bobby! Can do the same as non-admin users along with viewing the admin page (number of comments, posts, and users)	james@gmail.com 360James! Can post, comment, view their profile, change account information etc.	Can view posts and comments, and can search for posts but can not post themselves or comment.

Not Logged In:

Users that are not logged in are still able to browse all posts and topics, search for them, and can see any comments. However, they are unable to create posts or comment on any existing posts.

Registration:

When first opening Eclipse, new users can register by navigating to the Login/Register button in the top right-hand corner. This button will redirect them to a login page where they can also register from. Creating an account requires a first and last name, username, email, and a valid password (between 6-15 characters, 1 uppercase letter, 1 number and 1 symbol). For added security, completing registration hashes the user's password in the DDL.

Non-Administrator Accounts:
Logging In:

When first opening Eclipse, existing users can login to their accounts by navigating to the Login/Register button in the top right-hand corner. This will redirect them to a login page with a form where they must enter their correct email and password.

Non-Admin Login Credentials:

james@gmail.com
360James!

Viewing Your Profile:

Logged in users will have an additional profile button in their navigation bar. Once clicking on this, their profile page will show. This page displays their profile picture, name, bio, as well as lists and links all of their previous posts and any comments.they have made The profile page also contains the option to edit the profile details or change the account password.

Editing Your Profile:

Choosing 'Edit Profile' from the Profile page will redirect users to a form where they have the option to change their username, email, bio, or upload a new profile picture. Fields filled in are the only ones updated so they do not need to fill in each box to proceed with changes.

Changing Your Password:

Changing the user's password is a separate button from the Profile page. Clicking this will bring users to form with three fields: current password, new password, and confirm new password. Correctly filling these fields out will update the password on submission.

Browsing The Home Page:

Eclipse's home page automatically displays all existing posts sorted from oldest to newest in the left-hand column. The right sidebar has a list of existing topics and a resources section containing page links to About Us, Contact, and Terms of Service.

Interacting With A Post:

From the home page, users can click on any post that interests them and will be brought to the post's page. This post page has the same 2-column setup with the left side containing the post title, topic, content, author, as well as any comments and the comment's authors. If user's want to see similar posts, they can click on the topic. This brings them to a search result of that topic. In the comment section is where they will find the 'Add Comment' button for that post. The right column is consistent with the home page and has the topic list and resources.

Commenting:

To comment on a post, users can open up the post page from the home page or search. From here, there will be a bottom section with a 'Comments' header and a 'Add Comment' button. Clicking 'Add Comment' will open up a text box on the same page where users can directly comment. Once submitting a comment, the user will be brought to the same page except now, their new comment will be in the comment section. Their comments can also be viewed from their profile page.

Browsing The Side-Bar:

The left side bar has a list of existing topics and a resources section which includes About Us, Contact, and Terms of Service page links.

Topics:

To browse topics, users can either search for them or use the topic list on the side bar. Choosing one from the list automatically searches the site for any posts under this topic and displays them for the user. As posts are created, any new topics that do not exist are added to this list.

Using The Search Bar:

All users, logged in or not, can search for posts through the navigation bar. Users can enter any phrase, character etc., and posts containing the search in their titles or in their topic will appear. This allows users to search with keywords, their own interests, or by any topics. Through this search function, users can also sort the listed posts by date. They can do this in combination with a specific search or can use it to sort all posts.

Creating A Post:

Logged-in users will have a plus sign in the top right corner in their navigation bar. This button is there for creating a post. Once clicked on, a form will show asking for a post title, the content/body, and a topic. After being filled out and submitted, this post will now be displayed on the home page and may show up in search results.

Viewing Post/Comment History:

As mentioned before, users can view their post and comment history through their profile! Their profile page contains lists of their previous posts and comments as well as links to those posts.

Logging Out:

To log out, logged-in users will see a 'Logout' button in the top right corner.

Admin Walkthrough:

Admin Login Credentials:

bobby@gmail.com
360bobby!

Administrator Abilities:

Once logged-in, administrator accounts will have access to an 'Admin Page' button in their navigation bar from the home page. This page allows any administrator to view the site's total number of users, posts, and accounts.

Testing:

Forms:

Password forms: Each password form was thoroughly tested to handle invalid inputs such as wrong password (in login and change pw), mismatched passwords (in register and change pw), and missing requirements (in register and change pw). Invalid inputs were met with feedback messages and visual cues.

Other forms: Other forms such as email that receives an invalid input (email already in the database) is also met with feedback messages and visual cues.

Bad Navigation: Each page was tested to see if certain users with certain roles can access the page. For example, most pages are implemented with a session login check to prevent logged out/unregistered users from accessing the page and instead redirects them to the home page. This even works when the user types a specific URL in the address bar in their browser.

SQL Injection: Each SQL statement/query implemented prepared statements to prevent SQL injections and was tested against our database to prove its effectiveness.