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COMPUTER SCIENCE

BY

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PROJECT TITLE

ONLINE WEDDING SERVICE CONSULTANCY SYSTEM

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DECLARATION

STUDENT APPROVAL

This research is my original work and has not been presented for award of any degree in any University to thee best of my knowledge.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ABSTRACT

The wedding service consultancy system .The research problem revolves around the inefficiencies of traditional wedding planning practices, characterized by in-person visits and offline methods. Our objectives include developing a centralized digital platform to streamline wedding planning processes. To achieve this, we utilize requirement elicitation techniques such as interviews and surveys to gather stakeholder insights. Frontend tools like HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, and backend technologies such as PHP and PostgreSQL will employed for system implementation. Testing techniques such as unit testing and system testing ensure quality assurance, while deployment methodologies ensure a seamless transition to operational use. The research yielded a centralized digital platform that offers comprehensive services, seamless communication channels, vendor interaction modules, and secure payment gateways. This platform enhances efficiency, accessibility, and user experience for both couples and vendors, revolutionizing the wedding planning landscape. In conclusion, the research addresses the inefficiencies of traditional wedding planning practices by providing a centralized digital platform that enhances efficiency and user experience.

DEDICATION

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Chapter Introduction

The chapter is an overall description of the research. It familiarizes the reader with the topic of study.

1.2 Background of the Research

The wedding industry has long been characterized by traditional planning practices, where couples typically engage in in-person visits to vendors and rely on various offline methods for organizing their weddings. These conventional approaches are deeply ingrained in the wedding culture, with couples traditionally visiting physical locations and engaging with vendors face-to-face.

Historically, couples have embraced the process of physically visiting potential vendors such as venues, caterers, florists, and photographers (The Knot,2023). These in-person visits have been considered an integral part of the wedding planning journey, providing couples with a firsthand look at the offerings and allowing them to assess the ambiance and quality of services. Social media platforms have also played a significant role in this process, serving as channels for inspiration, showcasing vendor portfolios, and allowing couples to gather ideas for their weddings.

The traditional model of wedding planning involves multiple rounds of visits to various vendors, often requiring extensive travel and time commitments. This practice, while deeply rooted in tradition, poses challenges such as logistical complexities, time constraints, and limitations in accessing a diverse range of vendors.

Moreover, the reliance on in-person interactions and traditional methods often results in a slower and more fragmented planning process. The need for direct communication with vendors can lead to delays in decision-making, and the scope of choices may be constrained by geographical limitations.

In recent years, the advent of online platforms has started to influence certain aspects of wedding planning. Social media, in particular, has become a significant source of inspiration, allowing

couples to explore the work of vendors virtually (Davis & Garcia, 20202). However, the transition to fully leveraging online platforms for comprehensive wedding planning is still in its early stages.

As couples increasingly seek more efficient, convenient, and diverse ways to plan their weddings, there is a growing opportunity to introduce innovative online wedding service consultancy systems. These systems aim to address the limitations of traditional practices by providing a centralized, digital platform where couples can explore, plan, and manage various elements of their weddings (Plan Me Digital,2023). The goal is to streamline the planning process, offer personalized recommendations, and connect couples with a diverse array of vendors—all while minimizing the need for extensive in-person visits.

This research seeks to understand the current landscape of traditional wedding planning practices, examining the challenges faced by couples in the existing model. By doing so, it aims to highlight the potential benefits and solutions that an online wedding service consultancy system can bring to address the shortcomings of conventional approaches, ultimately offering a more efficient and modernized wedding planning experience.

1.3 Problem Statement

The wedding planning industry currently faces challenges rooted in traditional practices, where couples engage in time-consuming, in-person visits to various vendors and they also struggle finding reliable vendors. This system aims to solve this problem by providing a one stop for couples .The system will enable vetting quality of services, reduce the time of planning a wedding and enable efficient communication thus streamline the whole wedding planning process. According to the "2023 Global Wedding Report" (The Knot, 2023) and the guide on "How to Plan a Wedding Step by Step" (WeddingWire, 2024.), the wedding planning landscape is evolving, necessitating more streamlined, personalized, and technologically advanced solutions However, the absence of a centralized digital platform compounds these challenges. Couples lack access to a unified system that seamlessly integrates various elements of wedding planning. Overall, the deficiency in specialized wedding service consultancy systems negatively impacts the wedding planning experience for couples and limits the growth potential of wedding vendors in Kenya. Therefore, the need arises for the development of an innovative Online Wedding Service Consultancy System. This system aims to bridge the gap between traditional practices and modern

expectations in wedding planning. By providing a centralized digital platform, the proposed system seeks to offer couples an efficient means to plan and manage their weddings. Simultaneously, the system will allow users to have access to a large number of services. This data-driven approach will bring transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness in the wedding planning process.

1.4 Aim of Research

1.4.1 Main Objective

To provide a centralized digital platform that efficiently facilitates wedding planning for couples

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

Based on the problem statement above the specific objectives are:

i. Provide a wide array of services for complete wedding planning.
ii. Enable effective communication between clients and the vendors.
iii. To enable couples to rate and review the quality of services.
iv. Incorporate payment gateways for secure and seamless financial transactions.

1.5 Justification of Research

Due to the impact of digital technologies, what customers expect has changed significantly. (Ashley,2023) As a result, an Online Wedding Service Consultancy System is necessary. This system will combat the shortcomings of traditional wedding planning methods and is a proactive step to leverage the diverse benefits provided by modern technology. An online wedding service consultancy system is a digital platform that brings together wedding service providers and couples planning their wedding. This system is justified by several factors.

Planning a wedding can be a daunting task, given the numerous elements involved. An online system provides a one-stop solution, offering a wide range of services, from venue selection to vendor management, budgeting, and timeline creation. This significantly reduces the time and effort required in wedding planning. (Ashley, 2023)

Effective communication is key in planning a successful wedding. The system facilitates seamless communication between clients, vendors, and the consultancy team through chat functions, video conferencing capabilities, and notification systems. This ensures that all parties are on the same page, reducing misunderstandings and conflicts.

Every couple has unique preferences for their wedding. The system will allow clients to customize wedding packages based on their preferences and budget. This includes options for different types of venues, catering services, decoration themes, and more, ensuring that each wedding is unique and personalized.

The system will provide a platform for service providers to display their portfolios and update their service offerings. This not only increases their visibility but also allows couples to make informed decisions when selecting vendors.

Financial transactions are a crucial part of wedding planning. The system incorporates secure payment gateways, ensuring safe and seamless financial transactions.

In conclusion, an online wedding service consultancy system is justified as it offers efficiency, facilitates communication, allows customization, provides a platform for vendor management, and ensures secure transactions. It is a comprehensive solution that makes wedding planning a hassle-free and enjoyable experience.

1.6 Scope of Research

The scope of this study revolves around the development and implementation of an online platform tailored for wedding service consultancy in Kenya. The project is anticipated to take approximately eight months, focusing on thoroughly understanding the requirements and preferences of vendors and clients involved in wedding planning and service provision. The platform is designed to cater to engaged couples, wedding vendors, and wedding consultants, facilitating seamless communication and interaction among them. Engaged couples will have access to a wide range of wedding planning services, enabling them to manage every aspect of their wedding efficiently. Vendors, including venues, photographers, florists, and caterers, will be able to showcase their offerings, interact with clients, and manage bookings directly through the

platform. Wedding consultants will have tools and resources to provide expert guidance and support to couples throughout the planning process. Additionally, the platform will incorporate features for secure and convenient financial transactions, ensuring smooth payment processing between clients and vendors. The scope also includes the integration of feedback mechanisms to gather insights from users and continuously improve the platform's functionality and user experience.

1.7 Research Organization

This chapter dives into an in-depth exploration of the challenges faced by couples and service providers in wedding planning scenarios. By examining the limitations of existing practices, the chapter lays the groundwork for the subsequent development of the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System.

The second chapter undertakes a thorough literature review that critically evaluates the work of researchers and existing solutions in the wedding planning field. Through a comparative analysis, the chapter highlights the strengths and weaknesses of earlier studies and existing platforms. It serves as a foundation for identifying areas where the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System can introduce new features and improvements for more effective wedding planning.

The third chapter focuses on the research methods employed in developing the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System. It entails a comprehensive review of existing systems in the wedding planning domain, identifying their strengths and weaknesses. This methodological approach ensures a practical and informed system design.

CHAPTER 2: REVIEW OF RELATED WORK

2.1 Introduction

This chapter aims to conduct a thorough exploration of the existing literature surrounding wedding service consultancy systems, focusing on understanding the current procedures, systems challenges, and opportunities within the wedding planning industry. By reviewing relevant literature, we seek to gain valuable insights into the evolution of wedding planning practices, the impact of digital technologies, and the emerging trends in online consultancy services.

First, I will look at the traditional methodologies used in wedding planning. These include in-person vendor visits and manual organization techniques. I will to uncover common difficulties that couples encounter through this analysis, including time restraints, planning difficulties, and restricted access to a variety of vendor choices. This will open the way for an understanding of the demand for more effective and modern solutions.

Afterwards, the evaluation will turn its attention to how technology and digital platforms are transforming the wedding sector. We strive to clarify how couples are increasingly using digital tools to speed up their wedding planning process in order to seek convenience, accessibility, and customized experiences. We do this by looking at the impact of social media channels and online platforms.

Moreover, we will explore the significance of effective communication channels between clients and vendors in the context of wedding planning. By examining the limitations of traditional communication methods and the potential offered by digital communication tools, such as chat functions, we aim to highlight the importance of seamless communication in facilitating collaboration and decision-making.

Additionally, the review will examine vendor management within online wedding consultancy systems, analyzing the functionalities required for vendors to showcase their offerings, update their portfolios, and engage with clients efficiently. Furthermore, it will explore the integration of secure payment gateways, emphasizing the need for smooth financial transactions to enhance user experience and trust.

Ultimately, this review seeks to provide valuable insights into the potential impact of an online wedding service consultancy system in modernizing and enhancing the wedding planning experience. By identifying both the opportunities and challenges associated with such a system, we aim to lay the groundwork for its successful development, implementation, and adoption in the wedding industry landscape.

2.2 History of Research Topic

Over the past several decades, the number, diversity and popularity of events have grown spectacularly (Getz, 2012). Research in the area of wedding service planning in Kenya has evolved significantly over the years, reflecting changes in technology, consumer behavior, and the wedding industry landscape. Initially, studies focused on understanding traditional wedding planning practices prevalent in the country, characterized by in-person interactions between couples and vendors, as well as reliance on word-of-mouth referrals and offline directories and due to the elaborate demands associated with wedding planning an increasing number of couples have turned to accredited wedding organizers. (Christine A, 2015)

However, as technology use increased, researchers began exploring the adoption of online platforms for wedding planning in Kenya. There was emergence of local wedding websites, online directories, and social media platforms as resources for couples to research vendors, gather inspiration, and manage their wedding logistics. These new platforms highlighted the potential to address the challenges faced by couples in accessing and evaluating wedding services.

In recent years, research has shifted towards the development and evaluation of comprehensive wedding service consultancy systems tailored to the Kenyan context. These systems leverage advanced technology, such as web-based wedding planning platforms, to provide couples with centralized hubs for wedding planning. Studies have examined the features and functionality of these systems, such as, budget management tools, personalized recommendations and vendor referral. (Jackline W,2018)

Furthermore, researchers have explored the impact of wedding service consultancy systems on various stakeholders in the Kenyan wedding industry. Studies have investigated the experiences of couples using these systems, as well as the perspectives of planners, and other service providers. Research has also spread to the economic implications of these systems, including their potential

to create new business opportunities, improve market access for vendors as they are able to reach large audiences of engaged couples, anywhere (the knot, 2023), and enhance overall efficiency in wedding planning processes.

Overall, the history of research in the area of wedding service planning in Kenya outlines the country's ever-changing and evolving wedding industry. With the ongoing advancement of technology and the changing preferences of consumers, researchers are in a position to investigate innovative ideas and solutions that could transform the wedding planning scene.

2.3 Review of related prototype Systems

In the field of wedding planning and service consultancy systems, several notable platforms and solutions have emerged to cater to the diverse needs of couples and wedding vendors worldwide. This review shows five cases, showcasing the evolution and diversity of wedding service consultancy technology.

WeddinWire.

It is a leading global plartform that offers comprehensive wedding planning tools and services for couples, including features such as vendor listings, budget management and guest list management.(WeddingWire,2023) However, because the system is a global platform, it does not cater to the cultural aspects of local weddings. The cost is also higher due to its global reach. The wedding consultancy system, on the other hand, will be tailored to cater to local cultural aspects, making it more relevant and affordable for local weddings.

Planning Pod.

It is a wedding planning software for professionals that lets them collaborate with clients and share timesaving tools for managing their budgets, guest lists, RSVPs, wedding websites and more.(plannigpod,2024)However, it is primarily designed for professionals and may not be user-friendly for couples who want to plan their own weddings. Therefore thewedding consultancy system will be designed to be user-friendly for both professionals and couples, making wedding planning accessible to everyone.

The Knot.

It is a popular wedding planning plartform that offers a wide range of services, including vendor listings and wedding planning tools.(theKnot,2023) However, it may not cater to all cultural aspects of weddings, particularly for non-western cultures. The wedding consultancy system will be designed to cater to a wide range of cultural aspects, making it more inclusive and diverse.

Enzi Wedding Film.

It is based in Kenya and offers wedding videography services. They work across the country and are flexible to meet their clients' needs.(enziweddinggs,2022) However, they do not offer comprehensive wedding planning services. So couples only have access to videography services and still need to seek additional services for other aspects of their wedding planning. A wedding consultancy system can provide a comprehensive suite of wedding planning services, making it a one-stop solution for couples.

Janseson Wedding Planning Company.

Janseson is a platform where couples can apply for wedding planning services. (Janeson,2023)They offer various packages tailored to individula needs such as planning packages or assistance with specifc aspects of wedding preparation. However, the system does not enable users to plan their wedding but rather to hire others to do it on their behalf. This means they may not get exactly what they want as they are not directly involved in the planning process. In contrast, a wedding consultancy system allows couples to be actively involved in the planning process, ensuring their specific needs and preferences are met.

These five cases highlight the diversity of wedding service consultancy solutions available globally, ranging from comprehensive wedding planning platforms to specialized tools for wedding vendors. While global platforms offer extensive features and resources for couples, specialized solutions cater to the unique needs and challenges of wedding professionals, emphasizing efficiency and business growth. Whether couples are seeking a one-stop-shop for wedding planning or vendors are looking to streamline their operations, these platforms offer valuable resources and tools to enhance the wedding planning experience.

2.4 Emerging Trends and Patterns in the research

Emerging trends and patterns in the wedding planning and service consultancy industry reflect shifting consumer preferences, technological advancements, and evolving societal norms. Several noteworthy trends are shaping the landscape of wedding planning and service consultancy:

Digitalization and Online Platforms: The advent of digital technology has significantly transformed the wedding planning process, with couples increasingly turning to online platforms and mobile apps to research vendors, manage budgets, and organize wedding logistics. Wedding service consultancy systems provide centralized platforms that offer a wide range of services, from vendor recommendations to personalized planning tools.

Personalization and Customization: Couples are seeking more personalized and unique wedding experiences that reflect their individual tastes and preferences. Wedding service consultancy systems are incorporating features that allow couples to customize their wedding packages, select unique venues, and curate bespoke services tailored to their specific needs.

Sustainability and Eco-Friendly Practices: There is a growing awareness of environmental sustainability in the wedding industry, with couples opting for eco-friendly venues, green venues, and sustainable floral decor. (Maggie D and Carrie W,2023), Wedding service consultancy systems are integrating sustainability-focused vendors and offering resources to help couples plan eco-conscious weddings.

Virtual and Hybrid Weddings: The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the adoption of virtual and hybrid wedding formats, allowing couples to host ceremonies and receptions online or combine in-person and virtual elements. Wedding service consultancy systems are adapting to facilitate virtual wedding planning, offering virtual venue tours, live streaming services, and digital RSVP management. Sometimes the clients do not come to see the venue. They look at it online and book it (Keine K,2023).

Inclusivity and Diversity: There is an increasing emphasis on inclusivity and diversity in wedding planning, with couples seeking vendors and services that reflect their cultural backgrounds, identities, and beliefs. Wedding service consultancy systems are prioritizing diversity and inclusivity by featuring a diverse range of vendors, promoting LGBTQ+ weddings (Maggie D and Carrie W,2023), and providing resources for multicultural weddings.

2.5 Research Gap to be Filled by your Reasearch

Despite the proliferation of wedding planning platforms, there remains a significant research gap in the development of a centralized digital platform specifically tailored to the needs of couples in the context of the wedding industry. Mariana(2023) The wedding industry has long been characterized by traditional planning practices, where couples typically engage in in-person visits to vendors and rely on various offline methods for organizing their weddings. While existing platforms offer various features and services, there is a lack of comprehensive solutions that address all aspects of wedding planning in an integrated manner.

Specifically, the research gap lies in the absence of a platform that effectively combines a wide array of wedding planning services, seamless communication between clients and vendors, interactive modules for service providers, and secure payment gateways. While individual platforms may offer some of these functionalities, there is a lack of integration and coherence in existing solutions, leading to fragmented user experiences and inefficiencies in the wedding planning process.

Moreover, existing platforms often overlook the importance of customization and personalization in wedding planning, failing to cater to the diverse needs and preferences of couples. This gap highlights the need for a platform that not only provides a comprehensive range of services but also allows for customization to accommodate the unique requirements of each couple.

In summary, the research gap to be filled by this study is the development of a centralized digital platform that efficiently facilitates wedding planning for couples.

2.6 Chapter Summary

The review of related work provides a comprehensive examination of existing literature and prototypes in the domain of wedding service consultancy systems.

The chapter begins with an introduction that outlines the objectives of the review, aiming to understand the current dynamics, challenges, and opportunities within the wedding planning industry. It emphasizes the transformative role of digital platforms and technology in reshaping wedding planning practices and highlights the importance of effective communication channels between clients and vendors.

The history of the research topic provides insights into the evolution of wedding planning practices in Kenya, from traditional methodologies to the emergence of online platforms and consultancy systems. It underscores the need for research that addresses the unique characteristics and challenges of the local context, as well as the gap in research focusing specifically on consultancy systems within the wedding industry.

The review of related prototypes systems explores notable platforms such as The Knot and WeddingWire, showcasing their influence on modern wedding planning practices. It highlights the diversity of solutions available globally, ranging from comprehensive wedding planning platforms to specialized tools for wedding vendors.

Emerging trends and patterns in the wedding planning industry are also discussed, including digitalization, personalization, sustainability, virtual weddings, and inclusivity. These trends reflect shifting consumer preferences and technological advancements, shaping the future landscape of wedding planning and service consultancy.

Finally, the research gap identified in the chapter underscores the need for research that addresses the limited focus on the local context in Kenya and the lack of emphasis on wedding service consultancy systems. By filling this gap, researchers can contribute to the development of more effective and culturally sensitive solutions to support the wedding industry in Kenya.

In summary, Chapter 2 provides valuable insights into the current state of wedding planning practices, highlighting both the opportunities and challenges in the field. By examining existing literature and prototypes, researchers can identify areas for further investigation and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the domain of wedding service consultancy systems.

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This dives into the methodologies employed in the development lifecycle of the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System. It outlines the systematic approach taken to gather requirements, analyze system components, design the architecture, implement functionalities, test for quality assurance, and deploy the system for operational use. This chapter provides as a guide for comprehending the complex procedures needed to develop the system from start to finish up.

The methodology for literature review involves a comprehensive examination of existing research, publications, and industry reports pertaining to wedding planning systems, online consultancy platforms, and related technologies. This literature review forms the foundational understanding of industry trends, user preferences, technological advancements, and best practices, informing subsequent stages of system development.

Furthermore, the methodology for requirement specification encompasses data collection techniques such as interviews, questionnaires, and surveys to gather insights from stakeholders, including clients, vendors, and wedding consultants. Through these interactions, the system's functional and non-functional requirements are identified, prioritized, and documented, ensuring alignment with user expectations and industry standards.

The methodology for system informs the design phase by identifying system components, interfaces, and interactions, laying the groundwork for system architecture and functionality. It is used to showcase the current systems in use.

Subsequently, the methodology for system design focuses on translating requirements into tangible system components and structures. This phase entails architectural design, interface design, database design, and algorithm design, ensuring that the system is both user-friendly and technically robust.

The process for implementing a system also includes choosing and using frontend, backend, and database technologies to make the system's design a reality.

Following implementation, the methodology for system testing outlines a comprehensive testing plan encompassing various techniques such as unit testing, integration testing, system testing, and acceptance testing. This rigorous testing regime ensures that the system meets quality standards, functional requirements, and user expectations before deployment.

Finally, the methodology for system deployment outlines the steps involved in releasing the system into production, including installation, configuration, data migration, user training, and system monitoring. This phase ensures a seamless transition from development to operational use, maximizing user adoption and system effectiveness.

In summary, this chapter provides an overview of the systematic methodologies employed in the development lifecycle of the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System. In order to ensure that the system meets user needs and expectations, it explains the procedures involved in gathering requirements, evaluating, developing, implementing, testing, and deploying the system. This highlights the significance of taking an organized approach to system development.

3.2 Methodology for Literature Review

The proposal for a wedding consultation service system's literature evaluation employs a systematic approach to compile and evaluate prior studies, industry reports, and other relevant literature related to wedding planning and consulting services. In order to guarantee thorough coverage of relevant material, scholarly works, industry reports, online databases, and other noteworthy sources.

The search process will involve identifying suitable databases and search engines, refining search terms and keywords, and evaluating search results for relevance and significance. Special attention will be given to accessing sources that offer insights into various aspects of wedding planning, vendor management, client communication, and online service delivery.

Many evaluation methods and standards will be applied in evaluating the quality and applicability of literary sources in order to ascertain the dependability and suitability of particular resources. This will entail assessing elements like the thoroughness of the research techniques, and the correctness of the data offered.

A critical review and analysis of the identified literature will also be included of the literature review in order to find gaps and new trends in the wedding consulting services industry. This analysis will point out areas that need improvement, give insightful information about how wedding planning is now done, and guide the creation of the suggested consulting system.

This research seeks to provide a strong theoretical and conceptual framework for the development of the wedding consultancy service system by integrating findings from the literature review. The review will also assist in identifying gaps in knowledge and inconsistencies in the planned system, which will guide future research efforts and inform its design, implementation, and evaluation.

3.3 Methodology for Requirement Specification, Data Collection and Analysis Techniques

The methodology for requirement specification, data collection, and analysis techniques for the wedding service consultancy system involves a systematic approach aimed at gathering, analyzing, and documenting the specific needs, preferences, and expectations of stakeholders, as well as extracting actionable insights from collected data. This section outlines the methodologies employed in identifying, documenting, and analyzing the requirements essential for the development and implementation of the proposed system.

3.3.1   Requirements specification

In the requirement specification phase, stakeholder engagement plays a crucial role. Key stakeholders, including clients, vendors and managers will be actively involved through interviews, surveys, focus groups, and workshops to get their requirements, preferences, and pain points in wedding planning and consultancy. Various requirement elicitation techniques such as brainstorming sessions, use case analysis, and requirement workshops are employed to gather comprehensive and detailed requirements. These requirements are then documented using standardized formats such as use cases, user stories, and requirement specification documents to ensure clarity, traceability, and manageability throughout the development lifecycle.

3.3.2 Data Collection

Data collection for the wedding service consultancy system will involve multiple methods such as surveys, structured and semi-structured interviews, questionnaires, observations and analyzing existing documents such as wedding planning templates, contracts, and client feedback forms.

3.3.2.1 Interviews

Interviews will be used to collect information about wedding experiences and preferences from couples planning their wedding and vendors providing wedding services. These will be in the form of both structured and semi structured interviews. Couples will be interviewed to get to know understand needs and expectations from the wedding consultancy system. While vendors will be interviewed to understand their capabilities and how they can best serve the couples.

3.3.2.2 Questionnaires

They will be used to gather both qualitative and quantitative information from large number of people. It will be used to collect data from both the vendors offering their services and couples planning their wedding.

3.3.2.3 Surveys

This will be used to collect data about the preferences and expectations of the users for the system. The survey will also be used to collect data on market trends, customer preferences and areas that need improvement.

3.3.2.4 Analyzing existing documents

This will consider contracts and wedding planning templates. These will provide valuable insight on the past, contextualizing the present and providing a baseline for future for studies.

3.4 Methodology for system analysis(Current system)

The methodology for system analysis in the context of the current traditional wedding planning system involves several key components. Namely, the context diagram outlining the primary

actors and interactions involved in the process, including couples, vendors, and other stakeholders, the Level 1 DFD illustrating the major processes such as vendor selection, venue scouting, and budgeting, along with the data flows between them and the Level 2 DFD that breaks down these processes into sub-processes and identifies specific data flows within each. Finally, normalization involving organizing data related to couples and vendors, ensuring data integrity and consistency through relationships established between different data entities.

3.4.1 Context Diagram

In the context of the traditional way couples plan weddings through in-person visits to vendors, the context diagram depicts the primary actors involved in the process. External actors include couples, vendors, and other stakeholders directly engaged in the wedding planning process. The system, in this case, represents the traditional methods of planning, which involve physical interactions between couples and vendors at various stages of the planning process.

3.4.2 Level 1 DFD

The Level 1 DFD for the traditional wedding planning process illustrates the major processes and data flows involved. Processes may include activities such as vendor selection, venue scouting, budgeting, and coordination. Data flows between these processes, representing the exchange of information between couples and vendors, as well as among different stakeholders involved in the planning process.

3.4.3 Level 2 DFD

It breaks down major processes into sub-processes and identifies specific data flows within each process. For example, within the vendor selection process, sub-processes may include initial research, vendor meetings, negotiation, and final selection.

3.4.4 Normalization

Involves organizing data related to couples, vendors, and other entities involved in planning. This may include storing information such as vendor contact details, service offerings, pricing, availability, and contractual agreements in separate tables or databases. Relationships between

different data entities, such as couples and their selected vendors, are established through primary and foreign keys to ensure data integrity and consistency.

3.5 Methodology for system Design(Proposed system)

The process of creating the intended Wedding Service Consultancy System include carefully outlining the database structure, information flow, user interaction model, and system infrastructure. The important procedures and techniques that will be applied throughout the design stage are outlined in this part. These include the creation of flowcharts, user interface blueprints, database architecture, context diagrams, and Data Flow Diagrams (DFDs).

3.5.1   Context Diagram

The context diagram for the wedding service consultancy system illustrates the system as the central entity interacting with external entities such as couples, vendors, and administrators. It illustrates how the system communicates with outside sources to get input and produce results. Couples and other external organizations engage with the system to get wedding planning services, while vendors use it to display their products and connect with customers.

3.5.2   Level 1 DFD

The Level 1 DFD provides an overview of the main processes and data flows within the wedding service consultancy system. It identifies major components such as user interfaces, vendor management, communication channels, and payment processing. Data flows between these components, indicating the flow of information within the system.

3.5.3   Level 2 DFD

The Level 2 DFD expands on the processes identified in the Level 1 DFD, providing a more detailed view of data flows and processes. It breaks down major processes into sub-processes and identifies data stores, data sources, and data destinations. For example, within the vendor management process, sub-processes may include vendor registration, portfolio updating, and client interaction.

3.5.4   Flow charts

The Flowchart illustrates the sequential flow of processes and decision points within the system. It includes a step-by-step process of how couples interact with the system, from registering an account to accessing various planning tools and communicating with vendors. Decision points within the flowcharts represent branching paths based on user inputs or system conditions, guiding users through different scenarios or options during the planning process.

The flowchart provides a visual representation of the system's logic and functionality, helping to identify potential bottlenecks, errors, or areas for optimization.

3.5.5   User Interface Design

UI designs may include wireframes, mockups, or prototypes depicting the layout, navigation, and visual elements of the system's web or mobile interfaces. Design considerations include the placement of menus, buttons, forms, and interactive elements to ensure ease of use and accessibility for couples and vendors.

3.5.6   Database design

Database design for the wedding service consultancy system involves structuring and organizing data to support efficient storage, retrieval, and manipulation. The database schema defines the tables, fields, relationships, and constraints that govern how data is stored and accessed within the system. Tables will include entities such as couples, vendors, services, bookings, payments, and user preferences, each with its own set of attributes and relationships.

3.6 Methodology for System implementation; back end, front end and database technologies to be used

This section shows the various technologies and tools used for the implementation of the wedding service consultancy system

3.6.1   Back end Technologies

For the back end of the wedding service consultancy system, PHP will be the primary programming language used. PHP is a server-side scripting language known for its flexibility, compatibility with various web servers, and extensive support for interacting with databases. For handling HTTP requests and responses, I will leverage the Apache web server, a widely used server software that provides support for PHP.

3.6.2   Front end Technologies

For the front end of the wedding service consultancy system, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript will be the core technologies used. HTML will be employed for structuring the content of web pages, while CSS will be utilized for styling and layout design to enhance the visual appearance of the user interface. JavaScript will be used for implementing interactive features and dynamic behavior on the client side.

3.6.3   Database Technologies

For the database layer of the wedding service consultancy system, PostgreSQL will be the chosen database technology. PostgreSQL is an open-source relational database management system known for its reliability, scalability, and robust feature set. It supports advanced SQL queries, transactions, data integrity constraints, and indexing, making it suitable for handling complex data structures and relationships. To interact with the PostgreSQL database from the PHP application, we will utilize the PDO (PHP Data Objects) extension, which provides a consistent interface for accessing different database systems. PDO offers prepared statements and parameterized queries, helping to prevent SQL injection attacks and ensure the security of the application's data.

3.7 Methodology for system testing; testing plan, testing techniques

This section shows the methodologies that will be used for system testing.

3.7.1   Testing Plan

The testing plan for the wedding service consultancy system will encompass a comprehensive strategy aimed at ensuring the quality, reliability, and functionality of the system before deployment. The plan will include various stages of testing, each targeting specific aspects of the system to identify and rectify any potential issues. The testing plan will adhere to industry-standard practices and will be conducted by a dedicated team of testers.

3.7.2   Testing Techniques

Unit Testing: Unit testing will be performed to evaluate the individual components or units of the system, such as functions, methods, and modules. This will involve isolating each unit and subjecting it to rigorous testing to verify its correctness and functionality.

Testing frameworks such as PHPUnit for PHP will be utilized to automate the unit testing process and ensure thorough coverage of code execution paths.

Integration Testing: Integration testing will focus on testing the interactions and interoperability between different modules or components of the system. This will ensure that the integrated system functions as expected and that data flows seamlessly between various components.

Techniques such as top-down and bottom-up integration testing will be employed to gradually integrate and test components from higher-level modules to lower-level modules and vice versa.

System Testing: System testing will evaluate the system as a whole to validate its compliance with specified requirements and to assess its overall functionality, usability, and performance.

This will involve conducting end-to-end tests to simulate real-world scenarios and user interactions, ensuring that all system features work together harmoniously and meet user expectations.

User Acceptance Testing (UAT): User acceptance testing will involve engaging actual end-users, including couples planning their weddings, vendors, and administrators, to evaluate the system's usability, intuitiveness, and suitability for meeting their needs.

Performance Testing: Performance testing will assess the system's responsiveness, scalability, and stability under different load conditions. This will involve measuring response times, throughput, and resource utilization to identify any performance bottlenecks and optimize system performance.

3.8 Methodology for System Deployment

Before deploying the Wedding Service Consultancy System, a comprehensive plan will be crafted to outline objectives, timelines, resources, and responsibilities, detailing the deployment strategy and risk mitigation strategies.

In the phased deployment strategy for the wedding consultancy system, we will introduce system functionalities gradually in stages. Each phase will undergo testing and validation before the next one begins.

For migrating data from the current traditional wedding planning methods to the new system, the following methods will be utilized:

Manual Data Entry: Trained personnel will manually enter existing data from planners, venues, vendors, and other sources into the system. This method ensures accuracy and allows for the verification of data during the migration process.

Data Conversion: Data will need to be converted into compatible formats for seamless integration into the new system. This process involves transforming data from its existing structure to a format that is compatible with the database schema of the wedding consultancy system.

Data Cleansing: Before migration, data will be cleaned and standardized to remove any inconsistencies, duplicates, or inaccuracies. This ensures that only quality data is migrated to the new system, improving data integrity and reliability.

User training sessions acquaint stakeholders with system features and functionalities, supported by training materials and documentation for a smooth transition. During the rollout and go-live phase, efforts will be made to minimize disruption to users, with the deployment team closely monitoring system performance to address any issues promptly.

Ongoing support and maintenance post-deployment will involve addressing issues, bugs, or enhancements, with a dedicated support team ensuring the smooth operation of the system. This

deployment methodology ensures the successful integration of the System into the operational environment, empowering users to leverage its features for efficient wedding planning.

Chapter Summary

This chapter provides a comprehensive overview of the methodologies employed in the development lifecycle of the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System. It begins with an introduction that outlines the systematic approach taken to gather requirements, analyze system components, design the architecture, implement functionalities, test for quality assurance, and deploy the system.

The methodology for literature review involves a meticulous examination of existing research, publications, and industry reports related to wedding planning systems and online consultancy platforms. Through this systematic approach, insights into industry trends, user preferences, technological advancements, and best practices are gained, informing subsequent stages of system development.

The chapter further details the methodology for requirement specification, data collection, and analysis techniques. Stakeholder engagement is emphasized, with various methods such as interviews, surveys, and workshops employed to gather comprehensive and detailed requirements. Data collection techniques include surveys, interviews, questionnaires, and observations, with the collected data analyzed and documented using standardized formats.

In the methodology for system implementation, backend, frontend, and database technologies are carefully selected and utilized to translate system design into reality. PHP is chosen for server-side scripting, while HTML, CSS, and JavaScript are employed for user interface development. PostgreSQL is selected as the database technology for its reliability and robust feature set.

Lastly, the methodology for system testing outlines a comprehensive testing plan encompassing various techniques such as unit testing, integration testing, system testing, and acceptance testing. These rigorous testing processes ensure the quality, reliability, and functionality of the system before deployment.

Overall, Chapter 3 serves as a guide for comprehending the complex procedures involved in developing the Online Wedding Service Consultancy System, highlighting the significance of taking an organized approach to system development.

Chapter 4: Schedule, Budget, Resource

4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we covers three important areas of managing a wedding service consulting system that is the timeline, budget, and resources. Effective management of these elements is important for the successful development and implementation of the system, ensuring timely delivery, optimal resource allocation, and efficient utilization of available resources.

The schedule section provides a thorough overview of the timetable for each task and milestone in the consulting process. By outlining the sequence of activities and their respective timelines, stakeholders gain clarity on project progress and can effectively track milestones to ensure timely completion.
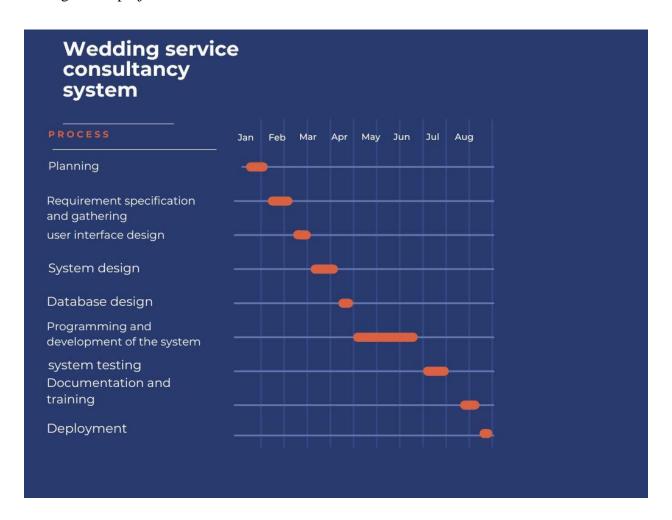
Furthermore, a thorough budget plan is necessary for efficient financial management and resource allocation. The budget section outlines the allocation of resources for the project, including financial resources and materials. By carefully outlining the expenditure, the budget plan provides transparency and accountability, enabling stakeholders to make informed decisions and reduce financial risks.

Lastly, the resources section looks at the human, material, and technological resources required for the consultancy. Material resources refer to physical assets and supplies necessary for project execution, such as office equipment, software licenses, and marketing materials. Technological resources encompass the digital tools, software platforms, and infrastructure required to support the consultancy's operations, facilitating efficient communication, data management, and service delivery.

In summary, this chapter serves as a comprehensive guide to managing the schedule, budget, and resources of a wedding service consulting system. By carefully planning and allocating these elements, the scholar can ensure the successful execution of the project, meeting client expectations, and achieving objectives.

4.2 Project schedule

4.3 Figure 4.1 project schedule

4.4 project Budget

table 4.1 Project budget

Item	Amount
Transport	12000
Hardware: Laptop	80000
Printing	2000
Internet	10000
Miscellaneous	7000
Total	111000

4.4 Project resources

4.4.1   Material resources

Hardware: A single computer will be used for system development, while users will access the system using their personal devices like smartphones or computers. The system will be designed to be compatible with various devices for easy accessibility.

Internet: Reliable internet connectivity is essential for research, stakeholder communication, and accessing online resources. It ensures smooth project management and development.

4.4.2   Human Resources

External Collaborators: The project will involve interactions with various external parties such as event planners, caterers, decorators, and clients. Their insights will be invaluable in shaping the consultancy system to meet the diverse needs of the wedding industry.

4.4.3   Risk mitigation

Potential risks and uncertainties, such as technical hurdles or evolving user preferences, will be identified and contingency plans will be developed. Flexibility will be maintained in project timelines and resource allocation to adapt to unexpected situations.

4.4.4   Infrastructure rsources

A suitable software development environment will be established on the computer using relevant tools and frameworks. This will facilitate the development, testing, and debugging of the system. Lightweight tools and open-source technologies will be preferred to minimize infrastructure costs.

Chapter summary

The fourth chapter of the wedding service consulting system explores crucial aspects essential for effective project management: schedule, budget, and resources. Beginning with an overview of the timeline for each task and milestone, the schedule section provides a structured guide for project progress and coordination among team members. Additionally, the budget plan carefully outlines

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resource allocation, including financial and material resources, ensuring transparency and important financial management. Lastly, the resources section examines the human, material, and technological resources required for project execution, facilitating efficient communication, data management, and service delivery. By thoroughly addressing these elements, the scholar can ensure the successful development and implementation of the wedding service consulting system, meeting client expectations and achieving objectives.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Sample Questionnaire

Sample Questionnaire for Couples

Dear Participant,

Thank you for taking the time to participate in our survey. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to develop a wedding consultancy system that meets the needs and expectations of couples like you. Please take a few minutes to complete the following questionnaire. Your responses will remain confidential and will be used for research purposes only.

1. Demographic Information:

   - Age:

   - Gender:

   - Location:

   - Relationship Status:

2. Current Wedding Planning Process:

   - Are you currently planning a wedding?

     - [ ] Yes

     - [ ] No

   - How far along are you in the planning process?

     - [ ] Just started

     - [ ] Midway

     - [ ] Almost done

- What methods are you currently using to plan your wedding? (Check all that apply)

  - [ ] Visiting vendors in person

  - [ ] Hiring a wedding planner

  - [ ] Online research (websites, social media)

  - [ ] Word of mouth recommendations

  - [ ] Other (please specify): _____

3. Challenges Faced:

  - What are the biggest challenges you have encountered while planning your wedding?

  - Do you feel overwhelmed by the planning process?

   - [ ] Yes

   - [ ] No

4. Expectations from the Wedding Consultancy System:

  - What features would you like to see in a wedding consultancy system? (Rank in order of importance: 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important)

   - [ ] Comprehensive vendor directory

   - [ ] Personalized recommendations

   - [ ] Communication tools with vendors

   - [ ] Checklist and timeline management

- How important is it for you to have access to real-time updates and notifications regarding your wedding plans?

   - [ ] Very important

   - [ ] Important

   - [ ] Neutral

   - [ ] Not important

   - [ ] Not important at all

5. Preferred Communication Channels:

  - How do you prefer to communicate with vendors?

   - [ ] Phone calls

   - [ ] Emails

   - [ ] Text messages

   - [ ] In-person meetings

   - [ ] Other (please specify): _____

6. Additional Comments:

   - Is there anything else you would like to share about your wedding planning experience or your expectations from a wedding consultancy system?

Thank you for your participation! Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Sample Questionnaire for Vendors

Dear Vendor,

Thank you for taking the time to participate in our survey. Your input is invaluable as we develop a wedding consultancy system that meets the needs and expectations of vendors like you. Please take a few minutes to complete the following questionnaire. Your responses will remain confidential and will be used for research purposes only.

1. Vendor Information:

   - Name of Business:

   - Type of Service Provided (e.g., venue, catering, photography, etc.):

   - Location:

   - Years in Business:

2. Current Business Practices:

   - How do you currently connect with potential clients?

     - [ ] Word of mouth referrals

     - [ ] Online platforms (websites, social media)

     - [ ] Bridal expos/events

     - [ ] Other (please specify): _____

   - Are you satisfied with your current methods of attracting clients?

     - [ ] Yes

     - [ ] No

- What are the biggest challenges you face in attracting and retaining clients?

3. Expectations from the Wedding Consultancy System:

 - What features would you like to see in a wedding consultancy system? (Rank in order of importance: 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important)

   - [ ] Comprehensive vendor profile with portfolio showcase

   - [ ] Effective communication tools with couples

   - [ ] Access to real-time updates and notifications

   - [ ] Secure payment processing

   - [ ] Marketing and promotional opportunities

 - How important is it for you to have access to a centralized platform where you can manage all aspects of your business?

   - [ ] Very important

   - [ ] Important

   - [ ] Neutral

   - [ ] Not important

   - [ ] Not important at all

4. Preferred Communication Channels:

  - How do you prefer to communicate with couples?

   - [ ] Phone calls

   - [ ] Emails

   - [ ] Text messages

- [ ] In-person meetings

- [ ] Other (please specify): _____

5.Payment Processing Preferences:

   - What payment methods do you currently accept?

   - [ ] Cash

   - [ ] Credit/debit cards

   - [ ] Bank transfers

   - [ ] Mpesa

   - [ ] Other (please specify): _____

  - Are you open to integrating online payment processing into your business?

   - [ ] Yes

   - [ ] No

6. Additional Comments:

   - Is there anything else you would like to share about your business or your expectations from a wedding consultancy system?

Thank you for your participation! Your feedback is greatly appreciated.