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Advanced Web Design

Project 2

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UX/UI Challenge

The Nest is the part of the SJU website that I use the most. There are many things with The Nest that I like and many things that I do not like. One of my favorite aspects of The Nest is Degree Works. Degree Works allows me to keep track of all the classes that I have taken and all the classes that I still need to take to complete my major or minors. It also allows me to plan for the future by seeing what classes fit with what requirements and by adding another minor or major and seeing if I would be able to complete it.

I find Degree Works to have a pretty easy user experience. Degree Works has easy access from The Nest home page. Once you get to Degree Work there is a box on the top of the page that has my class year, my GPA, my major, and my minors. Down below is a list of all the classes that I have taken and they are separated by GEP, major, minors, and electives. To the left side is a key that tells me what the marks next to each class means. I am a senior so I have taken all my classes but last year there would be under each section the classes that I still needed to take.

They also have easy tabs to help me plan ahead. They have a tab called what-if that allows me to add a minor or major to see if it is plausible to complete if I declare it.

While this is easy to do and a great tool, this section presents some problems. When I add another minor it comes up and tells me that I need to take classes that I do not need to take. As a senior I am not required to take an Ethics Intensive for my GEP and Visual Rhetorics for my major. It is slightly frustrating that The Nest is unable to recognize my class and assumes that requirements are all one and the same. This just leads to confusion and as a senior a scary moment that I have not completed all my classes.

Overall, I think Degree Works is one of the best features on the SJU website. It is very helpful for students and very easy to use. It has tame colors and is not too busy. I think the website has a great user experience.

Part 2

One of the most frustrating aspects of The Nest is that it sometimes takes me a while to find what I am looking for. I am graduating in May and I recently had to register for graduation. It took me a while to find the link that allows me to register. It had to click on the tab that says school services and school down to the bottom of the page for the link. I originally scrolled by it at first.

I wish that The Nest homepage was more tailored to me based on class year or major. I do not like how the home page of The Nest is filled with up coming events. I do not use The Nest for this purpose. I wish that it instead linked to academic and administrative things that I need. There is a small section that says Administrative Services but all the services are in categories and the categories are confusing. What is the difference between personal information and student? Also why is there a Financial Aid tap under student when there is already a Financial Aid tap? To me when you click on the homepage it should just be clear taps to get you where you need to go or show emergency information. It should have tabs that link to, Personal Information, Academic Information, Tuition Information, and Graduation Information. It should be clean and easy to read and see.

