# Problem Statement

Users generally want an easy and seamless experience when interacting with an application. Currently, the University of Victoria timetable builder uses an old and clunky interface that was designed many years ago with few to no redesigns.

When using the University of Victoria timetable builder, many first time students struggle using the system provided. A large number of the systems are spread thinly over several poorly documented pages, this leads to a frustrating experience where users need outside help for what should be a simple task. Consistency is also important when dealing with new users. The current solution has a lack of consistency in the number of tabs and links in the registration process. If a student wishes to see how a given course affects their weekly schedule, their only option is to register for said course. This leads to fluctuations in the course admissions, potentially taking away from those who require the course.

Feedback is important to new and returning users alike, however the registration page provided leaves a lot to be desired. This lack of feedback is found all throughout the given systems. Feedback is usually given to the user late or not at all, especially when dealing with course conflicts. When applying for a course, instead of a simple menu that lists all courses recommended to the user, a new menu is needed under a separate page called "lookup a course". This new menu is ordered alphabetical, which causes confusion when looking for electives or other less well known courses. Once a course that is desired has been found, the CRN number must be copied and pasted into a new "add/drop" course tab. This just just adds to the clutter.

# Proposed Solution

Our solution would be to design a brand new timetable builder with a simplified interface to replace the current university timetable construction system. This would benefit the stakeholders involved - both students and the university - by simplifying the signup process and reducing the financial costs of having to provide extensive guidance for new and experienced students alike.

This design solution would include the addition of a search bar with advanced filters to query times, lecture days, and types (faculties) of classes. Including the ability to search by required courses for a student’s degree and a recommended section listing recommended elective courses would also help expedite and simplify the process for students. An additional feature that would be worth including would be the ability to filter by courses currently offered for a given semester.

This proposed solution would help standardize and improve the user interface through including these options and other improvements discovered through the use of surveys and other research.

# Team

### Kyle Wilson - V00897204

Kyle Wilson is a third year Computer Science student at the University of Victoria. He is also a published journalist — specializing primarily in technology, culture, and their interactions through the lense of the Wikimedia movement — with experience being on both sides of the proverbial table.

### Jacob Thom - V00892893

Jacob Thom is a third year Computer Science student with a focus on Software Engineering. He has experience in group collaboration and freelance software development for computer and network security. His current project is developing an 8-bit turing-complete computer.

### Kelly Hamilton - V00869519

Kelly Hamilton is a third year Computer Science student with a focus on Software Engineering at the University of Victoria. I have group work experience in document collaboration in the topics of requirement engineering which include overlapping topics of information gathering and use cases.

### Spencer Hart - V00895336

Spencer Hart is a third year Computer science student. He has worked on several smaller mathematical projects relating to calculus. These projects required constant input from the client to maintain focus and accuracy.

### Kenil Shah - V00903842

Kenil Shah is a third year Computer Science student. He has group work experience in developing technical solutions to real life issues.

# Action Plan

Below is our rough idea of the various roles for team members and the milestone completion dates, which are subject to change. We will work collaboratively on all aspects of this project.

Kyle Wilson - Project lead and Coordination

Jacob Thom - Survey lead

Kelly Hamilton - Prototyping lead

Kenil Shah - Drafting lead

Spencer Hart - Editor-in-Chief

### Timeline

| **Description** | **Due date (subject to change)** |
| --- | --- |
| Proposal | January 27, 2020 |
| Personas and Scenarios | February 3, 2020 |
| **Prototyping** | **February 10, 2020** |
| Evaluation Plan | February 17, 2020 |
| **High Fidelity Prototypes** | **March 2, 2020** |
| Drafting of Final Report | March 16, 2020 |
| **Copyediting of Final Report** | **March 31, 2020** |
| Final Report Due | April 4, 2020 |