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IDG2003 : Back-end Web Development 1  
2020 Autumn

Project 2 : Social Media Platform  
Submission Deadline: 17 November 2020

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## 1 OBJECTIVES

Students should demonstrate that they know and are able to use:

- Basic PHP constructs such as expressions and loops
- Functions, arrays and objects
- File management and data structures such as JSON.
- Forms handling,
- HTTP GET and POST to handle data from forms,
- MySQL and PHP for Database Handling,
- Sessions, Cookies and Appropriate Security Measures.

and create a basic dynamic website using these knowledge and skills.

## 2 DESCRIPTION

In this assignment, you are expected to create a basic social media platform which allows user to interact with each other. .

Your website should contain the following pages :

1. Frontpage

The first page any user will see when they first navigate to the website. Where a member can sign in, and a new user can create a new account. Display the login form by default here, with a link that redirects to the registration page if the user does not have an account. There are 2 functionalities involved here : Login and Registration. (HINT : The Registration module could be its own page if you wish or you could find a clever way to handle both login and registration on the same frontpage).

2. Profile page

Page where a logged in user will see their relevant profile details, such as name, age, profile picture etc. They should also see their notifications, such as messages in their inbox. The same profile page should be used when a logged in user navigates to another user's profile. Where instead, the page should display the information of that member. A logged in user can navigate to another member's profile, from their friendlist or members directory. If a user is on another member's profile and if the latter is a friend, there should be a button which allows to remove that user as friend. Or alternatively, add that user as friend if he/she is not on their friendlist yet. Additionally, if on their own profile, the user should also an 'Edit Profile' button, which will allow them to edit their profile details(change name, date of birth, profile picture etc). You could choose to manage this with a different page, such as 'profile-edit.php'

3. Newsfeed page

Here, a logged in user will see the recent status posts of their friends, arranged by most recent first. Additionally, also display a module that allows the logged in user to post a status. If a status is posted, it should also be displayed on the newsfeed.

4. Messages page

Here, the logged in user will be able to message his/her friends. This page should contain a 'compose message' button, which upon click would open a new page called 'message-compose.php'. Here, there is a simple form to select one of the members on the friendlist as recipient, and a text field for the message and a send button. Should also contain an inbox, listing all the messages addressed to them, with a reply button, which opens a new compose message module, allowing the user to send a reply messages.

A template has already been provided for you, to help you get started.

In the template, you will find a folder named 'classes', in which you will find the different (incomplete) class definitions that may be useful in this assignment. Please do not delete any of these class definitions, I expect to find them in your final submission. Based on the task you

were given, you may be required to modify some(or all) of the class definitions. This would mostly be *adding* methods or properties to the classes.

Since, there are 3 members in 1 group. Each member is assigned to work on only one of the following:

1. Frontpage
2. Profile page
3. Newsfeed and Messages page

You can still brainstorm as a team and help each other. You may decide among yourselves, who will do which tasks, but make sure to communicate to me, who is working on what. You will be graded mainly on the task that you worked on.

In your individual submission, I expect each member of a group to submit the whole folder, and highlight the pages they have worked on in a readme.txt file. You should also include the modified classes(and additional helper files if any, such as functions.php etc).

You will find more specific instructions on what you were supposed to do in each of those files in the template provided.

### **First Steps**

The first step would be to create the database on PHPMyAdmin. I have made this task easier for you. In 'db.txt', you will find the MySQL code that you can just copy and paste on PHPMyAdmin to create your database along with the relevant tables.

You will find a helpful list of functions in the 'functions.php' file, to help you get started.

### **Supervision meeting**

Each group should present their current progress to me every week. This is mandatory. These would be 10 mins presentation, where I expect every member to attend. It will be an informal meeting where each member tells me what they have been working on and the general brainstorming that has occurred within the group. This allows me to keep track of your progress and help you if you are stuck.

## **3 OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- You should submit the entire folder, not just the files you have worked on. This includes the class definitions and functions file.
- Look and feel of the pages is under your discretion.
- Your code should be well indented and commented.
- Your code should use proper variable names for readability.
- Zip all your code into a single zip file.

- Name your zip file in this pattern : Project\_University\_YourName
- This is a group assignment, collaboration between team members(within the same group) is encouraged.
- Your assignment grade depends mostly on your own work, based on how many of the steps listed you have completed. (60/70 of the marks will depend on your own work and 10/70 will depend on how well you function as a group).

Good luck!