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Project Description

MalayanPORTAL is a website for Mapua Malayans, from Junior High School to College, to monitor and transact with various offices and centers of the school. Primarily, the website will focus on the status monitoring of the student user in terms of enrollment, schedules, and tuition balance. Moreover, the website will also contain FAQs and forms of other offices and centers to allow student users to transact with them.

Requirements Summary

MalayanPORTAL is designed to be device-agnostic since it is a website, and this gives wide-access to Mapua Malayans. Therefore, the requirements focus on the web browser version, the general minimum hardware requirements of those browsers, and the special requirements for the usage of the website due to some limitations.

Browser Requirements

• Chrome: Version 90 or later

• Edge: Version 90 or later

• Firefox: Version 88 or later

Safari: Version 14 or later

Hardware Requirements

Processor: Dual-core CPU (e.g., Intel Core i3 or equivalent)

• RAM: Minimum 4GB

Graphics: Integrated graphics (e.g., Intel HD Graphics 4000 or equivalent)

• Storage: At least 10GB free space

OS: Windows, macOS, Linux-based Operating Systems

• Internet Connection: Stable internet connection

Special Usage Requirements

Device Form Factor

For now, MalayanPORTAL can only be accessed on browsers in Desktops and Tablets (rendered in desktop mode).

Usage

Also, the website will only render when the browser window is in full screen as of the moment. There will be an error message when a window is minimized. Specifically, it is optimized for a minimum

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resolution of 1920x1080 pixels. But it will still scale on other browser window sizes that have the same aspect ratio to cater to a variety of device screen resolutions.

Prototype Description

Overview

The prototype is a full screen website that contains all the expected pages and their respective contents. Also, it already has basic interactions included, which means that some page elements can be interacted with. For instance, a button can be pressed, and it can redirect a user to another page.

The MalayanPORTAL interface prototype is made using Figma, an industrystandard prototyping service that can be accessed on the web or on native applications.

MalayanPORTAL Figma Link:

https://www.figma.com/design/1SxTzSzd0RjDUqUwtJ5RbP/MalayanPORTAL?nodeid=0-1&t=cXreAQr4LvYOig06-0

Parts & Usage/Task Flow

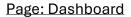
Pages: Waiting Screen (Animated) and Login Page





The loading screen will first appear when opening the website to signify that it is loading. Once ready, the login page will appear, wherein the user can input the credentials given from the IT Office. After that, the loading screen will reappear before loading the homepage, which is the Dashboard Page.

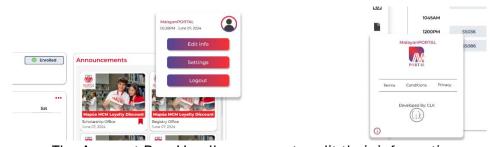
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The Dashboard Page is the homepage of MalayanPORTAL. It contains a summary of vital information across different pages. There are 4 sections on this page. It includes the Student Information section that shows the student information and enrollment status. There is also a Classes section that shows the weekly schedule of the user. Then, there is an Announcement section, which shows all the announcements displayed in reverse chronological order. Finally, there is a Tuition section that shows the summary of the student tuition status for this term.

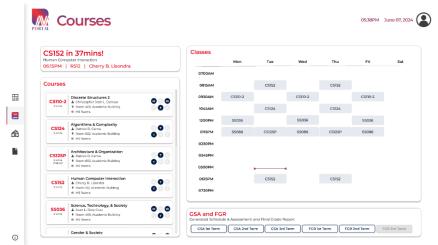
Part: Account and Website Info Pop-Up



The Account Pop-Up allows users to edit their information, access settings, and logout. The Website Info Pop-Up shows the developer and the notices for terms, conditions, and privacy.

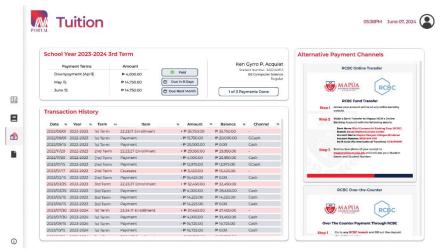
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Page: Courses



The Courses Page includes the Class section similar to the Dashboard Page. It also includes the Courses section that shows vital information about the courses that a student is enrolled in, which includes units, professor name, class venue and modality, and a summary of the days in a week in which there is a class. Also, there is a GSA and FGR section in order to access and download them. Finally, there is an Alert section that notifies users of their next class and includes essential information about that class.

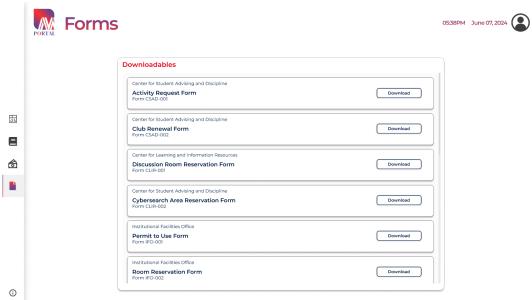
Page: Tuition



The Tuition Page includes the Transaction History section to see all of the financial transactions of the student. The is also an Information section that gives instructions for the different alternative payment channels available. Finally, there is a Summary section that shows users of their tuition status and progress on the payments made for the term.

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Page: Forms



This page shows the available forms a user can download from different offices in order to conduct various transactions.

Task Flow: Checking a Subject in the Dashboard Page



A user can simply click on a subject cell to open a pop up containing more info.

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Team: CLK

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Task Flow: Reading an Announcement in the Dashboard Page



A user can simply press one of the announcement cards to open a pop-up page in order to read an announcement.

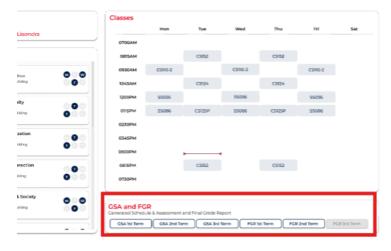
Task Flow: Checking Subject Units on the Courses Page



A user can simply check the units from the Courses section on the page.

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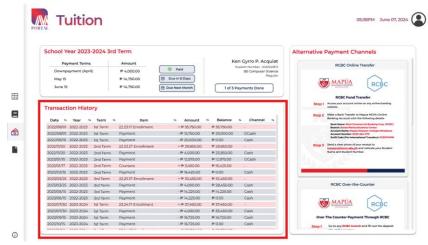
Task Flow: Downloading GSA and FGR from the Courses Page





A user can press the buttons corresponding to the desired file and term to show a preview and a download button.

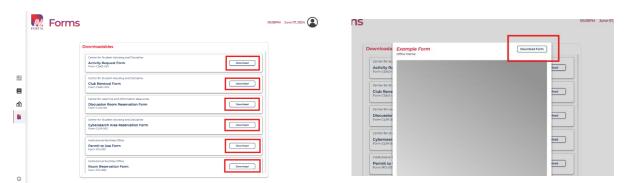
Task Flow: Checking Payment Transactions on the Tuition Page



A user can check all transactions made on the Transaction History section.

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Task Flow: Downloading a Document from the Forms Page

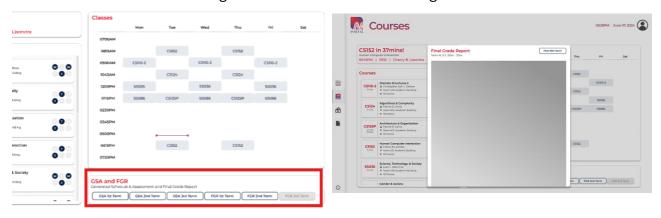


A user can simply look for the desired form on the page. Information about the office, form code, and form name can also be found. Once the desired form is found, the user can press the download button to show a preview to confirm the contents and the actual download button.

Scenario

Suppose Ken is asked by his parents for a copy of his grades on the previous term. First, Ken can simply go to the Courses Page through the navigation bar. Then, he can find the buttons for the available FGR at the lower right of the page. Then, he can just press the button of his desired FGR and a pop up will appear containing a preview and a download button. From there, he can click the download button to download the FGR and then he can send the copy to his parents.

Task Flow: Downloading the FGR from the Courses Page



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Rationale

The user experience of MalayanPORTAL for navigation is inspired by the school's Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. First, the different pages of the website can be accessed from a sidebar. Moreover, stacking or layering windows or pop-ups on top of another gives a sense of locational awareness to the user.

On the user interface, the team decided to pursue modern and clean elements since it is expected that the content will be data heavy. For the color palette, it consists of the standard Mapua red and blue colors, the gray used on Blackboard Learn, white, and the colors of the MalayanPORTAL logo. The colors related to MalayanPORTAL were used in navigational parts of the website, while the remaining colors were used in the body.

Changes to the Requirements

Most of the requirements set for the planning stage were met, specifically on the core features. However, an important requirement that cannot be achieved due to time and prototype development constraints was making the website accessible for browsers of any device. With that, the team decided to only pursue a full screen web browser experience. Once the web browser window is minimized or when the window size is reduced, all of the contents of the website will be replaced by a clean background that has the MalayanPORTAL logo and an instruction to resize the window to full screen in order to use the website once again.

Initial Evaluation Plan

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation will consist of 2 main criteria, which are the Heuristic Evaluation Criteria and the Usability Criteria.

Heuristic Evaluation

Heuristic Evaluation is a method to inspect the usability of a design. It is rooted from the Heuristic Principles that should be seen as a rule of thumb, rather than a rigid set of rules. It aims to identify issues, generate feedback, and improve the overall design. These principles include:

- Visibility of System Status
- Match Between System and Real World
- User Control and Freedom

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- Consistency and Standards
- Error Prevention
- Recognition Rather than Recall
- Flexibility and Efficiency of Use
- Aesthetic and Minimalist Design
- Help Users Recognize, Diagnose, and Recover from Errors
- Help and Documentation

Usability Evaluation

Usability Evaluation are methods to assess a design's user-friendliness and if it achieves its purpose. In the context of MalayanPORTAL, users will mainly evaluate if they can do tasks efficiently and intuitively. The team came up with the following themes for the evaluation

- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Learn Ability

Implementation

The team plans to conduct a thorough real-world evaluation. Respondents will interact with the prototype and then they will be given a survey through an online tool, specifically Google Forms. The team aims to conduct evaluation to at least 10 students of Mapua Malayan Colleges Mindanao regardless of level. Moreover, the selection of the correspondents will be random due to availability reasons.