

# Milestone #1

Team Name: ConnectCU

Members:

- Tanya Leung
- Javier Ramirez
- Tyler Moore
- Nestor Vargas
- Braden Holmes

Description: A website where CU Boulder students can connect with other students in their class. They can form study groups based on the classes they share and ask and answer questions related to their class. Our idea is to kind of blend Reddit and Chegg together. If we can create a Reddit style to our website but include academic content like Chegg, then we can build something that is unique for us.

Our basic model includes having a main page that has the most relevant and popular questions. This way it is easy for students to see what is trending and to get help quickly. And then we will also have different pages for different content and classes that people can go in order to get direct help for a specific topic. Chegg and individual tutors can be very expensive, so this website is meant to create a non-bias website that connects students with other students that are going through the same problems.

Vision Statement: To provide a better learning experience for students and give them a place to get help that is free and reliable.

Motivation: As students, we understand the struggle of being stuck on a homework or project and not having anyone around to help us right away. We want to create a tool that can give students the opportunity to get assistance about any subject in any topic whenever they need it. While some individual classes may have their own forums, sometimes they are clunky and hard to use. We want to create a website that puts all class help on one handy and easy to navigate website while also creating an opportunity for students to possibly find other students to create study groups and such.

Risks: There are a lot of things that we do not know yet so it is a challenge to figure out how long this project will take if we don't know how hard it will be. There are a lot of things that go into building a website so one risk is learning how to put everything we have learned into one big project. Another risk is not having very many people to test it out. This site requires people to ask questions and for other students to answer them, so it will be hard to test the website if we do not have many people to sign up.

Risk Mitigation: For the risk of not knowing how an entire website comes together involves us doing a lot of research about these topics. Some of the research we will have to do involves linking the back end of the website to the front, connecting it to a database, hooking up our website to a server, or creating a page that incorporates people interacting with other people. It

will be a lot of test and error to figure this stuff out. For our second risk, we will have to ask friends and family to test it out to give us feedback on how to make the website better.

Version Control: The version control system we will be using is GitHub because we already learned it in class and it is a very effective way to keep software updated and organized when working on a big project.

Development Method: The development method we will be using is Agile/Scrum. The steps we will follow involves splitting up the whole project into subprojects so that we can create and test them before we move onto the next one. This system works better than waterfall because if we create the whole project and it turns out the users hate it, we basically have to start all over. The steps we will use for each subproject involves plan, analysis, design, code, test and deploy. This way we will be able to test a piece of software and make sure there are no problems with it before we move onto the next piece.

Collaboration Tool: We are using Slack as our collaboration tool because it is super easy to communicate and stay organized throughout the whole project. We understand the struggles that can arrive in software development when working with other people in group; so we've decided to choose a tool than can mitigate issues of any nature when organizing a team.

Proposed Architecture:

We will be using HTML/CSS/Javascript for the front end because there are so much we can do involving these languages to make our website look interesting. For the back end, we will probably be using either PHP or Python so that we can interact with our database.

Some features we plan to implement:

- Main Page for Trending Topics
- Organized by Major
- Sub-organized by Subject
- Forum
- Matching/Filtering System
- Private Messaging
- Event Board