

CS 411W Lab 1 Draft 1

Team Gold – KnowTime

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1 Introduction

In contemporary academia, students grapple with an array of challenges, chief among them being the effective management of their time and workload. The inability to navigate these demands often leads to detrimental outcomes, including decreased academic performance, heightened stress levels, and compromised well-being. Moreover, the absence of a supportive community exacerbates these challenges, leaving students feeling isolated and overwhelmed. Recognizing the pervasive nature of this societal problem, our team embarked on the development of an innovative solution aimed at empowering students to overcome these obstacles and thrive academically.

1.1 The Societal Problem

Students across educational institutions face significant hurdles in managing their time and workload effectively. The relentless barrage of assignments, exams, and extracurricular activities can leave students feeling overwhelmed and stretched thin. Moreover, without access to a supportive community, students often struggle in isolation, exacerbating feelings of burnout and diminishing motivation. The repercussions of poor time management extend beyond the academic realm, affecting students' overall well-being and mental health. Addressing these challenges is paramount to fostering a conducive learning environment and ensuring student success.

1.2 The Solution

Our solution, KnowTime, seeks to change how students approach time management and study skills. By harnessing innovative technology and a user-centric approach, KnowTime provides students with the tools and resources needed to navigate their academic journey with confidence and success. Through a comprehensive suite of features, including personalized study plans, grade tracking, and a supportive community forum, KnowTime empowers students to take control of their academic endeavors and achieve their full potential. With KnowTime, students can cultivate effective study habits, foster a sense of camaraderie, and ultimately thrive in their academic pursuits.

2 KnowTime Product Description

Our solution will be a web app with many features to reduce student burnout and increase organization. We will have a community forum, calendars, task tracking, grade tracking, a points system, and personalized study plans. All these features should ensure a personalized, helpful experience for each student.

2.1 Key Product Features and Capabilities

General Information

Our web application can be used on multiple platforms and will feature a responsive design to encourage consistent usage.

Pomodoro Timer & Customizable Study Sessions

- A customizable timer that can be modified to fit students' needs. Pomodoro timer technique has student set a desired amount of time to study and an amount of time to take a break. After four study sessions, the student takes a longer break.

Progress and Task Tracking

- Track your progress over time and keep your tasks organized.

Points System

- Earn points for completed sessions to unlock sessions to unlock fun avatars.

Grade Tracker

- Students will be able to input and monitor grades over time with our graphing system.

Import School Calendars

- Import calendars from apps like Canvas or Blackboard

Calendar with Reminders

- Receive reminders about upcoming due dates.

Community Forum

- Chat with other people who have similar struggles or have advice.

Study Plan Generation

- Have a personalized study plan automatically generated for you.

Provide Study and Mental Health Resources

- We will direct students to academic, mental, and academic support.
- Our application is unique because of the inclusion of the community forum to help support students during the semester and the customized study plan generator. The points system helps with focus and motivation as well.
- KnowTime will help students develop study habits and better organize their tasks using the features described.

- Our features accomplish this by helping students be more organized with their tasks. Specifically, the Study Plan Generator takes the students' information and creates a customized study plan that will help them make time to work and ensure they are also relaxing. The community forum and resources will provide support for students to help reduce burnout.

2.2 Major Components (Hardware/Software)

Hardware:

- Desktop Computer
- Database Server

Software:

- Integrated Development Environment (IDE): Visual Studio Code
- Version Control: Git through GitHub
- Backend: Python with Django
- Frontend: HTML5/CSS, JavaScript, and Bootstrap 5
- Testing Frameworks: PyTest and Jest
- Documentation Tool: Pydoc and JSDoc
- Database: PostgreSQL
- Web Server: Django
- Operating System: Docker

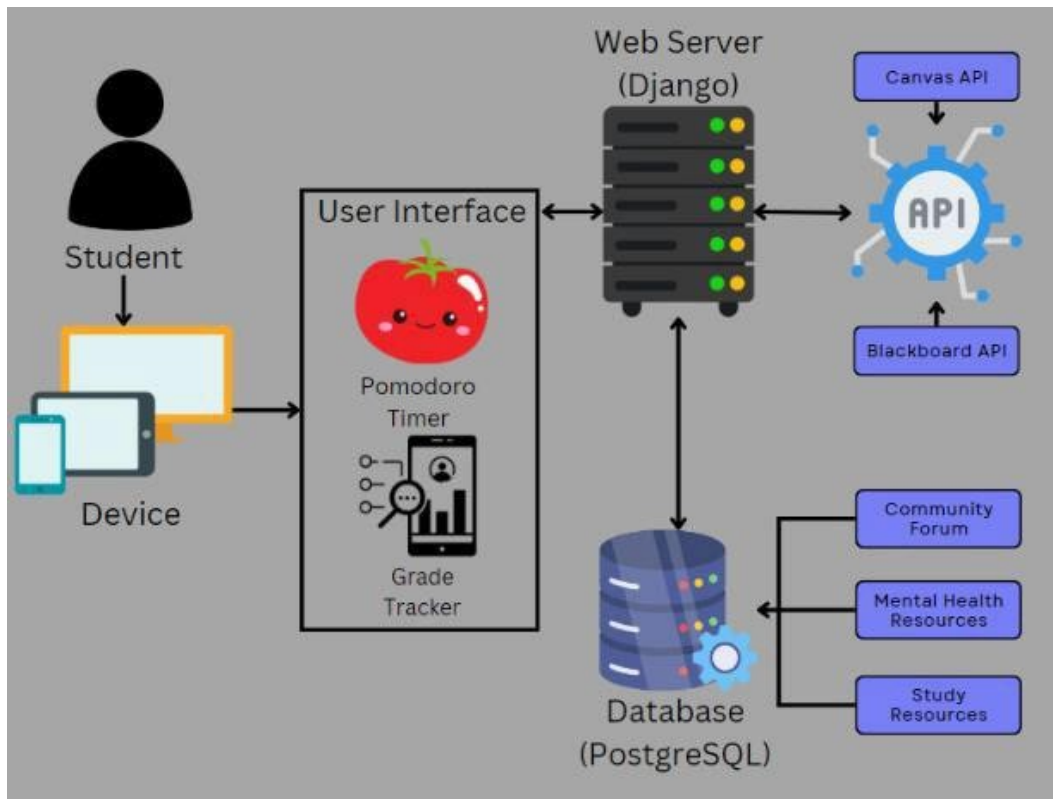


Figure 1: KnowTme MFCD

3 Identification of Case Study

3.1 Who This Is For

This product is for students who struggle with time management.

3.2 Purpose

This tool helps students develop study habits and time management skills while providing a community to support them.

3.3 Who Else Benefits

Students or other individuals who just want to be more organized.

4 Glossary

Grade Tracker: Grade tracking will be based on user-inputted grades. It will look at their grades, and the time spent studying, which may be entered by the student or automatically generated if the task was completed during a study session within the website.

It will then generate a graph correlating time spent studying with the grade they received. They will also be able to filter this graph by tags. This will allow students to view a particular class to determine how they can improve. The student will set a goal for the grade and view how they are progressing over time.

Pomodoro Timer: The Pomodoro timer technique was created by Francesco Cirillo in the 1980s while he was a university student. To follow this technique, the student sets a timer for 25 minutes to complete a task. Once the timer goes off, the student takes a 5-minute break and then continues to work again for another 25 mins. After four sessions, the student takes a 15–30-minute break (Scroggs 2022).

Study Plan: A study plan will be generated based on various factors that will be entered by the student. Examples of information entered that will be considered are assignment due dates, exam dates, and times that the student has specified they are busy. Study plans also consider time spent on similarly tagged tasks and the need for breaks between tasks.

Task: A Task is any assignment that the student needs to complete, whether that be a homework assignment, an exam, or just making time to study or gather materials. Tasks can have multiple tags and are created by the student in the web application.

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