Introduction

This document was created for The Games Institute (University of Waterloo) to outline the vision of PeerDoc for all employees. It explains the preliminary idea to audiences of different expertise, such as Engineering, English, Psychology, Computer Science and Math programs.

PeerDoc Documentation

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION
PeerDoc aims to be a social networking website for English writers all over the world. It will be an interactive tool for writers to collaborate for various purposes, including essays, creative writing, and business writing. There are various goals that we hope to accomplish with this website. Despite the numerous goals that Stephanie hopes to attain with this project, this document will specifically describe the main goals, which include:

- Gamification of learning
- Pinterest-like design and function
- Various functions using BuddyPress

GAMIFICATION

Gamification is the modification of traditional learning concepts by introducing the use of gaming, and game mechanics to engage users. One of our goals is to engage users into writing games to understand the concepts better with PeerDoc, and to help fellow writers get rewards for doing so. The following pages display the idea of gamification that is used by Codecademy, which is an idea we hope to implement in PeerDoc, but using games that are geared towards writing.
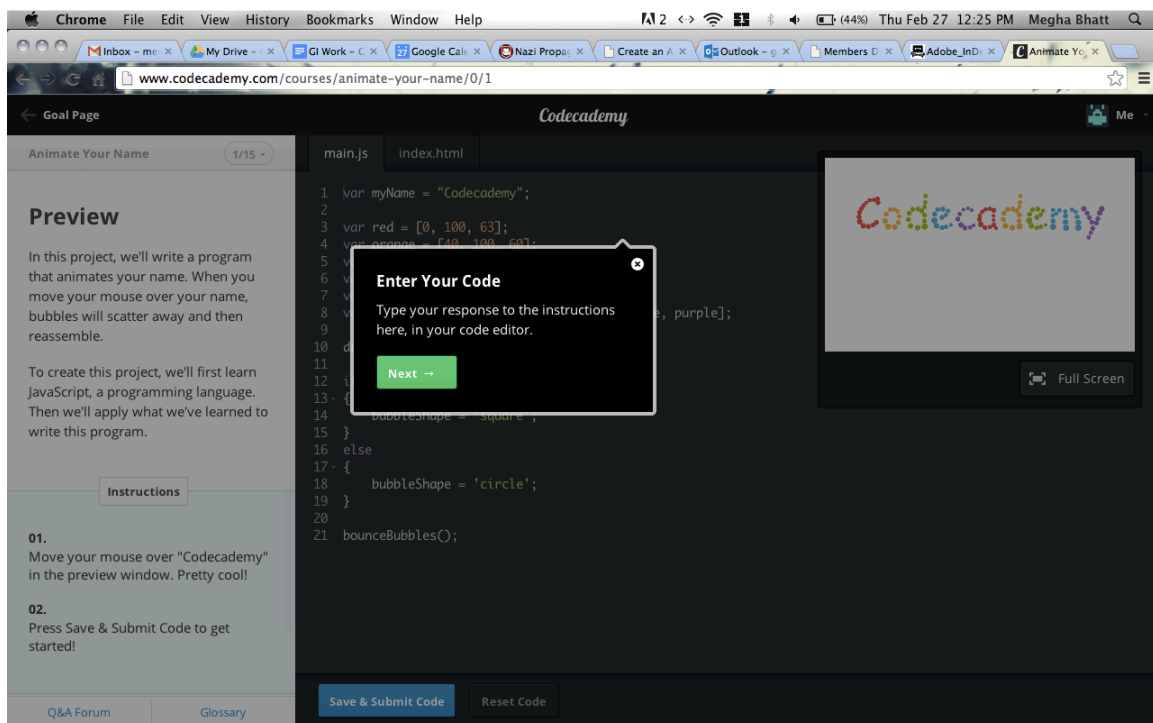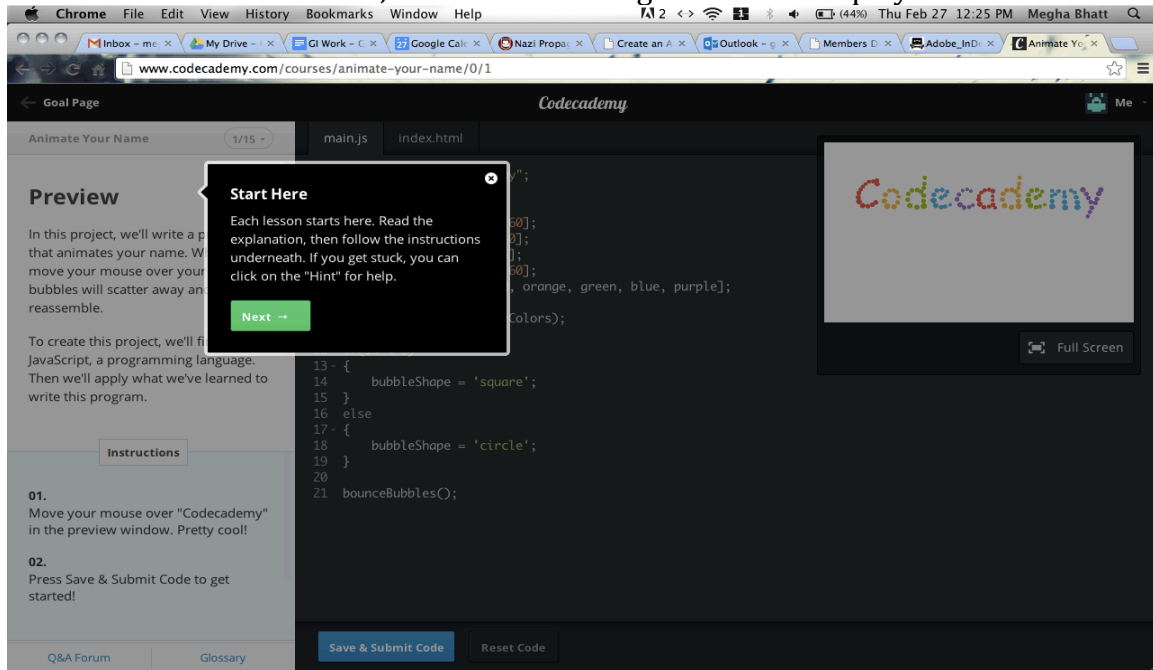
<u>Codecademy</u>

Codecademy is a website that teaches coding in popular languages such as HTML & CSS, jQuery, JavaScript, PHP, Python and Ruby. Unlike other websites, Codecademy uses the idea of gamification to encourage students to continue learning how to code.

At the beginning, Codecademy introduces "fun" projects such as animating your name, building your own website and building your own galaxy, and also suggests the estimated time it will take to finish each project.
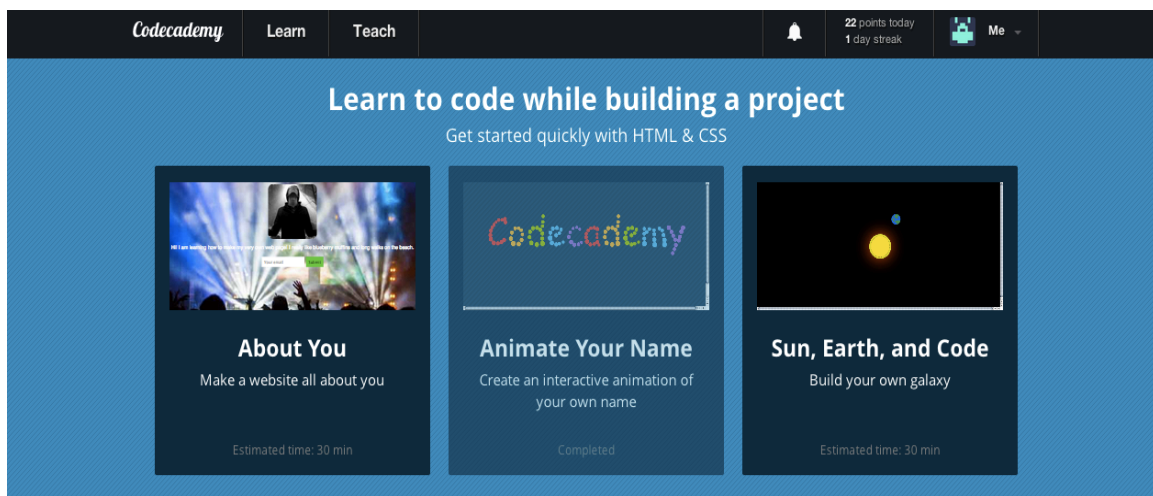
Instructions

Once you start a project, Codecademy gives you instructions on how different features of the screen work, similar to a video game's "how to play" video.

2 (44%) Thu Feb 27 12:25 PM Megha Bhatt

Inbox – me | My Drive | GI Work – C | Google Cale | Nazi Propa | Create an A | Outlook – g | Members D | Adobe_InDe | Animate Yo

www.codecademy.com/courses/animate-your-name/0/1

Goal Page Codecademy Me

Animate Your Name 1/15

Preview

In this project, we'll write a program that animates your name. When you move your mouse over your name, bubbles will scatter away and then reassemble.

To create this project, we'll first learn JavaScript, a programming language. Then we'll apply what we've learned to write this program.

Instructions

01.
Move your mouse over "Codecademy" in the preview window. Pretty cool!

02.
Press Save & Submit Code to get started!

Q&A Forum Glossary

main.js index.html

```
1   var myName = "Codecademy";
2
3   var red = [0, 100, 63];
4   var orange = [40, 100, 60]
5   var green = [75, 100, 40];
6   var blue = [196, 77, 55];
7   var purple = [280, 50, 60]
8   var letterColors = [red, o
9
10  drawName(myName, letterCol
11
12  if(10 < 3)
13 - {
14      bubbleShape = 'square';
15  }
16  else
17 - {
18      bubbleShape = 'circle';
19  }
20
21  bounceBubbles();
```

Codecademy

Full Screen

See What it Does!
Here's where you can see how your code will render in your browser. This will update as you type.

Next →

Save & Submit Code Reset Code

```
1   var myName = "Codecademy";
2
3   var red = [0, 100, 63];
4   var orange = [40, 100, 60];
5   var green = [75, 100, 40];
6   var blue = [196, 77, 55];
7   var purple = [280, 50, 60];
8   var letterColors = [red, orange, green, blue, purple];
9
10  drawName(myName, letterColors);
11
12  if(10 < 3)
13 - {
14      bubbleShape = 'square';
15  }
16  else
17 - {
```

Codecademy

Full Screen

Submit
Ready to see if your code does what it should? Click "Save + Submit" to check your code!

I'm ready!

Save & Submit Code Reset Code

It also provides the user with specific instructions in order to complete the assigned coding task, and with a hint if the user is "stuck." It is similar to finding "cheats" for games.

Points and Badges
The projects have certain "levels" a student needs to complete in order to get points and badges. The badges are offered for different criteria such as finishing a project, completing 10 exercises, first lesson and Max Streak Count of 1. Following are some of the badges' pictures. You can further share the badges on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter to compare your results with friends.
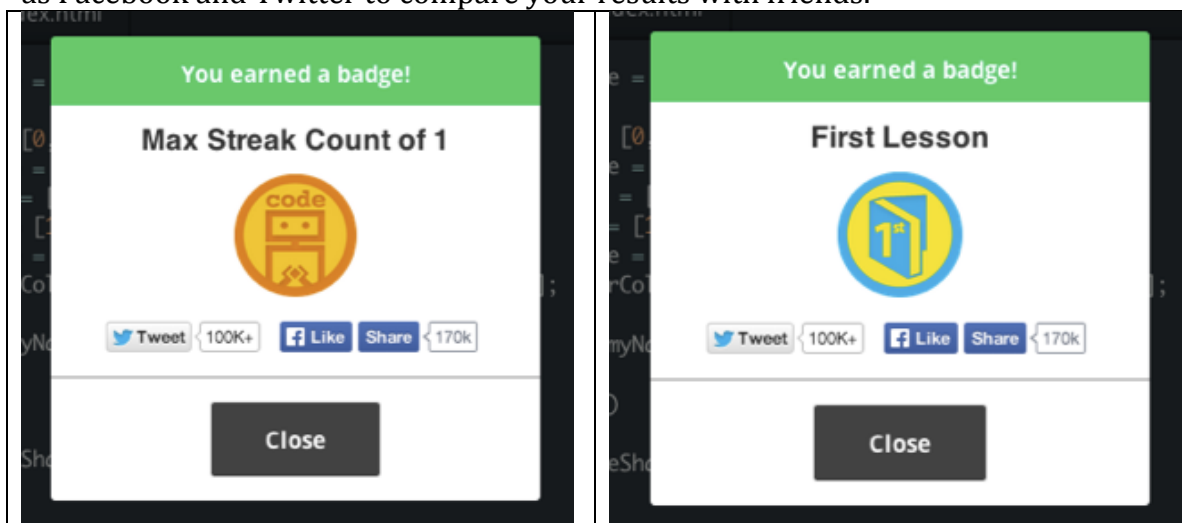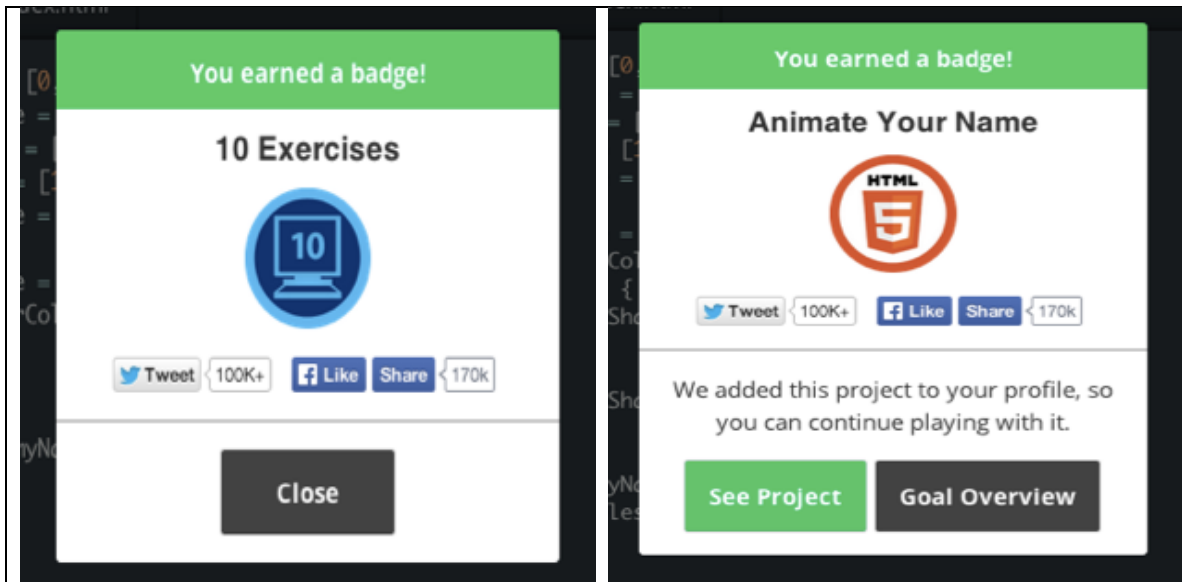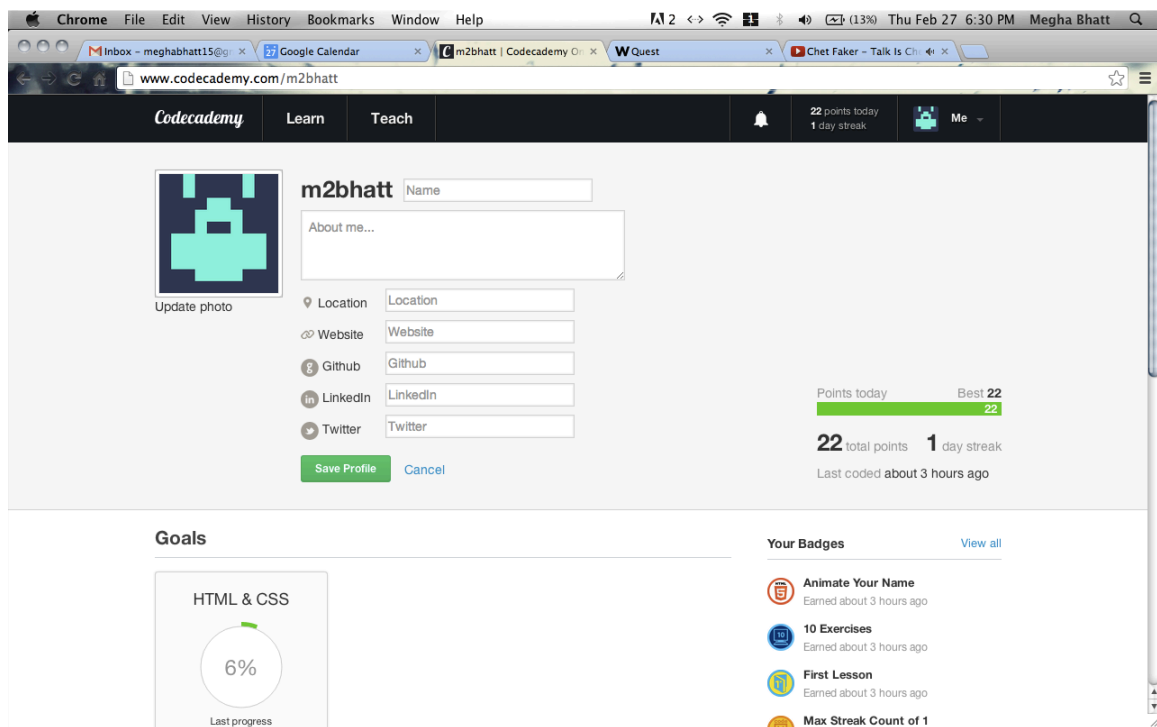
Profile

Codecademy further lets a user create a profile like in a game, where you can:
- Add your own picture
- Write a blurb about yourself
- Add own websites, twitter/linkedin/github profiles
- Display your goals, points, badges, groups and codebits (projects you have completed)

Accomplishments

Similar to a game, Codecademy offers incentives such as points and badges to further encourage the user to learn coding.

Social Presence

Codecademy also makes the website a social hub for users to interact by connecting through various groups (all coding related such as Advanced JavaScript Coders, Python for Beginners). In these groups, you can interact with fellow coders; view their profile including their points, badges, goals, groups, and day streak.
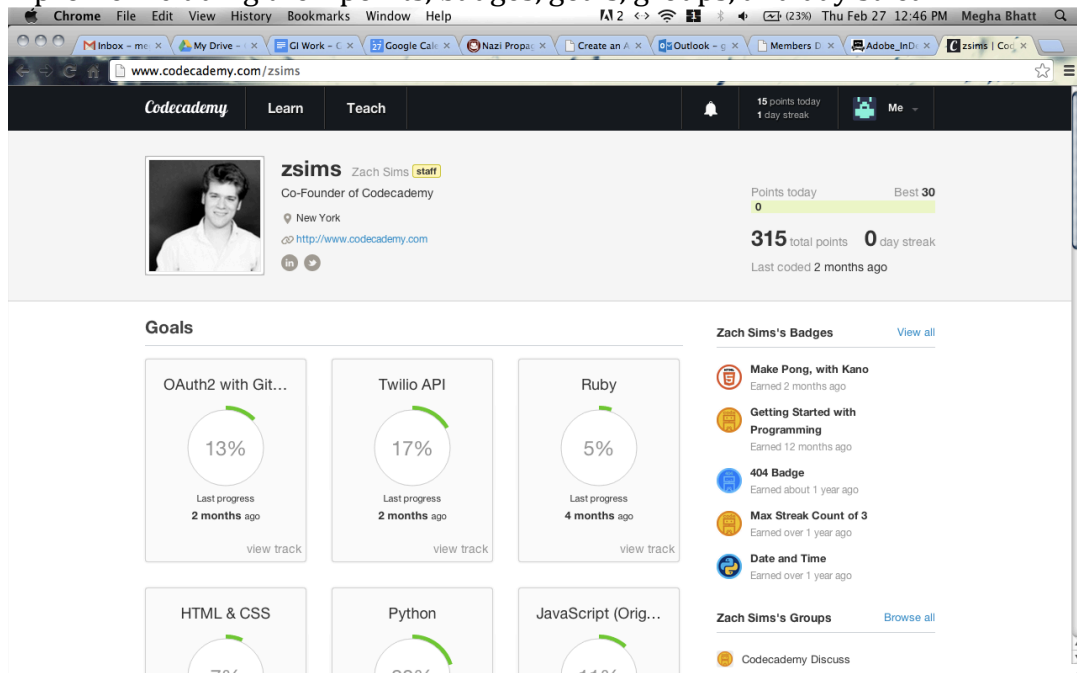
PINTEREST
Pinterest is a mobile and social website that allows users to collect, share and discover various topics, such as travel, DIY projects, and recipes. The website mainly operates with the idea of having a "board" and "pins." Stephanie is interested in focusing on the idea of having boards and pins for PeerDoc, so it's easier for students to upload, share and collaborate their writing.

Boards

A user can have various boards in order to organize their pins. These boards are usually organized according to the user's preferences and likes. For example, I have the boards, Words, Fitness, DIY and Useful under my profile to categorize various pins. Pinterest allows the users to have personal profiles so it's easier to navigate and save pins for later use.
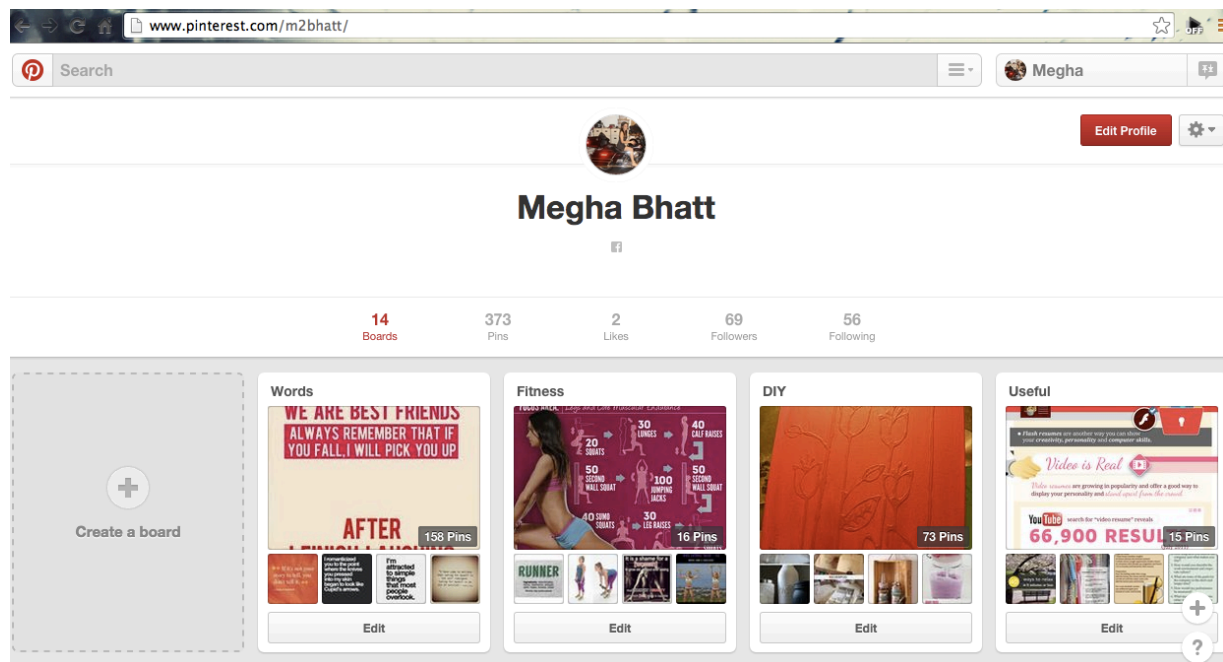
<u>Pins</u>
A pin is a visual image, which provides the user with further information on different topics. The users upload the pins from various resources. This concept is Stephanie's main focus, as she would like the users to share their writing resources with other users, making PeerDoc an interactive and social website. A pin can be pinned by clicking on "Pin It," which saves it to your personal board, it can be sent to a friend, and it can be "liked" by clicking on the heart button on the top right.

The following is what a pin looks like:

Mocha Crunch Cupcakes
618   34
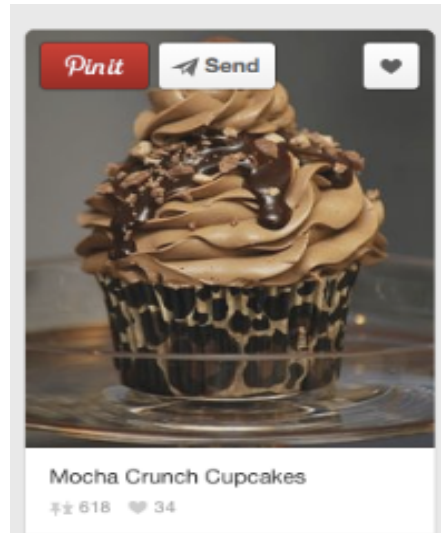
BUDDYPRESS

As a prototype for PeerDoc, we will be using BuddyPress to design and test the implementation of various plugins for this project. BuddyPress is a software package that can be installed on WordPress to transform it into a social media website. It allows us to create a community using elements such as user profiles, posting messages, making connections and interacting with others, which is one of the goals of PeerDoc. BuddyPress also allows administrators to add plugins to the website to personalize the site according to their preferences. This website is suitable to our needs since PeerDoc will be shaped into a community for writers to collaborate and share various resources with.

Installation

Most of the plugins can be installed using the following steps:

1. Log in to WordPress installation using your username and password (emailed to everyone by Quinn), and then click **Plugins** > **Add New**

2. Under **Search**, enter **(plugin's name)** in the search field, and then click **Search Plugins**

   Result: The appropriate plugin is displayed

3. Click **Install Now**

4. Click **OK** to install the plugin

   Result: The plugin is installed to the WordPress

5. Click the **Activate Plugin** link

Possible Plugins (click on the title to access the plugin)
- [Document Uploader](#)
- [Document Collaborator](#)
- [Document Viewer](#)
- [Group Members](#)
- [Sharing](#)
- [Improved Search Function](#)
- [Achievement Badges](#)