# **Project Proposal – JMU-Share**

*Group 7*

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# **Overview**

Many college students have had difficulties during their undergraduate career that have led to them seeking online resources to help them with their classes. However, many of these same students can spend hours trying to find online content to help them prepare for a test or supplemental notes to clarify their own notes but never find notes for what they need help with. JMU-Share plans to address this problem by creating a new web application specific to the JMU community that allows users to upload their class notes or view other notes. We plan to limit most features to strictly the JMU community by requiring a @dukes.jmu.edu or @jmu.edu email address to register and login in. With a student’s dukes.jmu.edu account, they will be able to upload their own notes, view other notes, and comment on other’s notes. If a faculty member registers with a jmu.edu account, they will be able to post their own notes for a class as well as endorse student’s notes or comment on a note with corrections or clarifications.

As for the financial market value, JMU-Share will not generate any revenue, our main goal is to help students feel more confident about their classes throughout the semester via peer-assisted learning.

The main transactions that will be supported by JMU-Share are uploading notes to a specific department and course number, searching for notes within first a department and then the course number, commenting on notes for further clarification or explanation, rating notes based on their helpfulness and detail, endorsing notes, and a user may remove a note that they have uploaded. Admin will also be able to remove any note if a note appears to lack as a supplemental resource.

II. **Dynamic Content**

1. Search Results

To find notes that the user wants, they will be able to search by most of the attributes in the posts table. They can search by class, author of notes, rating, date, and subject. There will be selection options at the top of a page and below notes that match the search criteria will appear. The results will depend on the search and will include a post title, author name, class title, rating info, a possible professor endorsement, and a hyperlink connecting to the actual notes themselves.

2. User Profiles

Each user will have a profile with their email, username, role, and previously posted notes. All the previous posts will have ratings and hyperlinks to them. The user information will come from the user table. The notes titles, ratings and hyperlinks will come from the posts table.

3. Comments on notes

To make the notes more interactive, users will be able to make comments like sticky notes on specific locations in a post. These comments will be seen by all users and will facilitate a discussion and improving of notes. Along with in line sticky note style comments there will also be a comments section at the bottom of the notes page for more lengthy discussion. The content and location of the comments will come from the comments table. Every time a new comment is made it will be stored in the comments table and upon refresh will appear to other users looking at the same notes page.

4. Customized notes

Over the course of a semester there is an enormous amount of material covered. Individual users will have the option to create a customized set of notes that pulls from a variety of other users posts and their own posts. This page will be highly customizable for the user and will avoid the need for the user to click through 30 documents to study for a test. They will select sections of posts that they want to use for their custom notes and it will create a new continually updated post in the posts table. Each time they select a section of another persons notes for insertion into their personal customized notes, their post will be updated in the posts table. It is very much like creating a Frankenstein collaboration of notes.

**III. Necessary Database Tables**