Matthew Trembley

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Southern New Hampshire University

CS-319

Module One Milestone

The main purpose and goals of this project is to successfully design a well planned and thoughtful UI/UX for one of 3 applications. I’m going to choose the first one, a mobile barcode scanner app that will be able to scan a barcode for a food item and see a graphic for all of its ingredients, which will correspond to their overall healthiness.

Today, eating healthy can sometimes be expensive, and with so much different ingredients and things to think about, maybe you don’t have time to shop healthily! Well with this Food Scanner, just one quick scan of the item’s barcode and you’ll have an easy to read and understand picture of the overall health benefits that item has! High in high fructose corn syrup? Well don’t worry, a graphical RED image will appear to warn you that this may not be a healthy option. Picking out a pre-prepared stir fry? Those vegetables will light up green! But beware of any unhealthy preservatives that may show as yellow or red! It’s time to get a real handle on healthy eating with the helpful use of this application!

One of the top contenders of an app of this genre is My Fitness Pal, developed by the sports company UnderArmor. This app really is incredible for what it is, as you can scan barcodes for specific nutritional information and to add the item to a tracker, where you can keep note of all the items you eat and/or drink – or even what you’re curious about! It has a very accurate search feature, where if you want to know the nutritional value of half an avocado, it will give you the information quickly. This app seems to be geared to young adults and older. Children are generally not too keen on keeping track of their intake, but as people whose metabolism has slowed and watching what they eat is much more important, it is helpful to anyone. Those who have a bit difficulty navigating a smartphone may have trouble using the app, as it also hosts some more advance features for those who are really serious about tracking intake, exercise, and macronutrients. This app is definitely targeting those who want to eat healthy and hold themselves accountable for what they eat. With that being said, this app can honestly be for anyone, as there it can prove useful to practically anyone. The main purpose of this application is to encourage healthy eating and exercise, as the title of it suggests – it is your fitness pal!

Overall, this app is easy and safe to use. There is not really any way to enter private information that would be detrimental to someone if it was breached. As a regular user myself, it is very useful and once you find your way around once or twice, it really becomes memory after that. I took a break from it when going on vacation and returned to it maybe 3 to 4 months later and I was still able to use it as if I hadn’t let go of that habit at all. The app doesn’t have the easiest “flow” to it, so it takes some navigating and confidence in using a smartphone to figure out, but it is not by any means something that would prevent someone from learning and using. As a whole, I have recommended it to my coworkers who want an easy way of tracking what they eat. I believe it is a successful product, and I continue to use it for it’s helpful information.