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Project Design and Plan

DESIGN

Introduction

Our team has decided to name our project Study Studio. The concept is a website that aids students and teachers to grasp the material in a meaningful way, our research has led us to realize that flashcards are worthy of that. As we started designing Study Studio we researched different aspects such as layouts, color schemes, functions, views, accessibility, interface and networking. We have incorporated all of the most important aspects of our findings in order to make a stellar website for each user.

Layout

Our team discussed the layout of different aspects of the website. We needed a layout for each page of the website, the navigation bar and the sign-up page.

Color Scheme

The design for Study Studio includes the color scheme. From our team’s research we determined that using cool colors on the website was more calming and helpful for students needing to study. From our color scheme and continued with our theme of light colors, because we wanted it to be simple. For this we choose one of the most simple geometric shapes to design it, which is a triangle, and each of the triangles alters in color from blue green, yellow, and red, and overlap which creates our simple design for the background. We also came up with a logo for Study Studio. The team decided that the simpler the logo the more appealing and easier for the user to understand.

Functions

There are many functions that our team could include in relation to creating the flashcards. A user could want to include many different things on their flashcard depending on what they are studying. We absolutely need a save, edit and delete function for each of the flashcards. Our team also decided that it would be beneficial for the user to have functions that allow them to add an image or sound file to the flashcard.

Users will be able to add additional functions to their flashcards such as an image and a microphone. These will be useful to their studies when having an image connecting to a certain flashcard. The microphone is another function that will be used to record audio pertaining to the question and/or answer of the flashcard. Once the user is finished inputting all their information onto their flashcards, they can simply click and create them. This function will be programmed so that the inputs will auto generate onto the next page and be displayed on a flash card. Another addition would be the “More” button where we will program this button to create a new line of input boxes so the user can add a new flash card. Once a user has 50 flashcards, we will block them from exceeding to create more.

Views

We want to make sure that we have different views for the user. We need a view for the user to edit their flashcards but we also need views for the user to be able to study their cards and print them if they want to.

Accessibility

The accessibility of Study Studio is restricted in the sense that a user needs to have an account in order to be able to access most information and functions. Users without an account will have limited access. This means that they will only be able to use the pages of the site that are designated for public users. If a user the is not signed in attempts to navigate to a restricted page, a prompt for them to sign up will display on their screen.

Interface

We determined that a 3-tier website will be most effective for Study Studio. The middle tier will be the interface that connects the database to the design and makes the webpages functional.

Networking

Study Studio will include social networking aspects. Users can be added to classes if they are a student, or create classes if they are a teacher. Each user will be able to connect and chat with different members of the classes they are a part of for study purposes.

PLAN

Introduction

Before beginning our project, we had to come up with a plan. This plan would help each team member get tasks completed on schedule.

Schedule

The first week our team discussed different ideas for our project. By the time we finally decided on one we wrote our proposal. We decided on a website the students and teachers could use to make flashcards for study purposes that we will call Study Studio.

The second week we focused a lot of our attention on the design of the website. We began discussing what should be included on the website and how it should be displayed so it would be most convenient and effective for the user. This week we also started the HTML and CSS code for the homepage of Study Studio.

The third week our team focused our attention on research. We all chose different aspects of the Study Studio website that we were interested in implementing. We them completed research on those aspects and compiled a presentation on what we found out about our project.

The fourth week each team member created a GitHub account in order to make working on the code for our project more efficient. We continued to work on the designs for the website and we began thinking about what the database for the website should look like.

The fifth week we began to start writing our database using mySQL. Our team finished the UML design of the database and decided the best way the database should be set up for Study Studio. This week our team also completed the designs for the main pages of Study Studio. These designs have prepared us to implement the HTML and CSS code for the website. Our team has decided on how to set up the navigation bar for Study Studio and how we want to implement the search engine feature.

Our plan for the future of the project is to have the database and main pages coded within the next two weeks. We want to have the bulk of the website completed and working before we go on Spring Break.

After the bulk of the work is completed we can work on implementing the smaller aspects. These would include aspects like perfecting the Live chat and Search engine. We would also want to make sure that the website is as efficient as it could be. We want to do some testing of the website before the end date of the project comes too close. To test we would need to create an account and be able to log in and out. We should be able to use all of the features available for users when creating their flashcards and we should be able to complete a successful search and conversation with other users from the Live chat.