

# **TEAM PROJECT**

## **1. Initial Project Specification**

- This project will deliver a website that provides assistance for students, by students, within the LYIT.
- This project was chosen over other proposals because it provides assistance to other students in a manner which we feel was missing from our college experience.
- We know how to design a website that allows users to sign up and log in, as well as restrict access for users who are not logged in. We also know how to manage databases that are connected to websites.
- We will need to learn how to set up a forum-like system of threads and comments, as well as how to set up a system to moderate it accordingly.

## **2. Description of the system**

### ***Development of a web based student forum***

Students sometimes may find themselves in a rut when they get stuck on a problem relating to their course of study. Maybe the day's modules went right over their head or maybe they have trouble with a particular module. This website will aim to help students from LYIT remedy their problems they may have in a module. If a student feels like they need out-of-hours tutoring, this may act as a substitute or a bridge to attain the knowledge that they so dearly need.

There will also be an advertisement board for anything that a student may deem necessary. Any threads or comments that may be considered inappropriate or offensive can be reported via a report button on the page.

### **Core Focus: Peer to Peer tutoring**

- To ease the task of looking for help (as a student)
- To encourage students to integrate themselves further into their respective areas of study
- Students can request help from people who know the struggle is real.
- Advertise housing and part-time work available that might suit a student.

### **3. Description of Skills**

*Some of the skills and knowledge that our team hopes to acquire and develop throughout the project process will encompass the following:*

#### **Technical skills**

- Database administration – using SQL and working with phpmyadmin
- Web development – working with html, CSS & JavaScript

#### **General Skills**

- Team player
- Analytical
- Communication
- Time management skills
- Coping with pressure
- Flexibility
- Ability to accept constructive feedback
- Strong work ethic

### **4. Description of Artefact & Usefulness to Target Group**

The website hopes to achieve the following:

- Help the study process around exam time.
- Broaden student's knowledge of course, core concepts.
- Provide a coherent and consistent service to be availed of by students.
- Students can request anything, from current college material to previous student's doctoral dissertations.
- If permitted, the head of each department may seem fit to integrate peer mentoring into the service. Ie. If a particular user is actively helping out students, then that student may qualify for a special purpose award.

The idea that students may let some modules take over most of their daily hours due to whatever reason is a major issue in education. One module gets more attention and before you know it, the workload starts to snowball and sometimes a student may find themselves drowning in unsolved problems and incomplete assignments. Even experts can be fallible at times. No one is above asking for help.

At the very least, this website will provide a service to be availed of. If it takes off, the college can expect the average grades across the board to rise exponentially.

## **5. Suggested Core Functionality**

### **Functional**

- Registration and profile set-up
- Populate courses & modules
- Log In – Home Page displaying course modules
- Each module – view, add topic
- Add comment/example to topic
- Up voting – Likes
- Admin Moderation – remove posts, remove users
- Reporting malicious posts
- Auto-filter – swear words blocked etc.
- Upload images
- Create meeting for topic – chosen room, no. of spaces, time
- Follow meeting – track progress if space becomes available, becomes full
- Join/Leave meeting – notifications sent out if full/place is available
- Cancel meeting
- Clear meeting once complete
- User can close account
- Job/Accommodation postings
- Groups – Activities, study
- Class rep

## **6. Provisional Roles & Responsibilities**

In order for our team to get tasks done efficiently, each member of our group will have the experience of becoming team leader. Each member of the team will hold the role of team leader for two weeks and they will be responsible for guiding the team members. Key roles of team leader will include:

- Communicate clear instructions to team members
- Listen to team member's feedback
- Create reports to update team progress
- Developing and implementing a timeline that the team will use to reach its goal
- Distribute work fairly to each team member

## **7. Software Environments**

The software environments that we will use are:

- Brackets editor (Sublime, SciTE) for JS, HTML & CSS
- Umlet for Use Case Diagrams & Class Diagrams
- Microsoft Project for Gannt chart
- Microsoft Word
- Xampp
- GitHub
- Blackboard
- Adobe Photoshop for logo/artwork

## **8. External Resources**

For this project our team members will use various sources of information and draw our conclusions based upon information provided by book, websites our any other external resource as well as other professionals who will be of reference. Our external resource will include:

- System Analysis and Design with UML Version 2.0 , John Wiley & Sons, Inc