

# CSC309 A4 Project - Learnology

## Team Members:

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## Notes:

- Please go to “**index.html**” to get links to all pages.
- Please use username “**JohnSmith**” and password “**password**” to test log in functionality.

## Description:

Learnology is a skill sharing and exchange service that connects people who want to develop skills and those that want to teach it. Everyone needs skills in their everyday lives. Skills such as cooking techniques, filing tax returns, playing an instrument or playing basketball are some of the few things that are of interest in learning. Typically seeking one-on-one guidance is rather difficult. Independent people wishing to teach also find it hard to find students without proper networkability. Our system will be easy to use for both learning users and teaching users. Users are flexible, as in real life, they are both allowed learn and allowed to teach. This website will offer a great place for anyone with a passion for knowledge.

## How it Works:

Learnology is an online service that allows people wishing to share their knowledge in a skill or subject area to post a page for those that are interested to see. Visitors can view all courses’ information on Learnology but only users can enroll in courses. Visitors can either search for a course or user in the navigation bar, or go to one of our course categories if they have no idea what to search for.

To become a user, visitors can either register through their social network account (Facebook, Twitter) or provide username and password using our own system. Once registered, users are directed to their profile page where they could edit and provide more information.

Users can be directed to Course creation page from either navigation bar or profile page.

From the course page, users could see all the course information (Time, description, price... etc.), as well as teacher’s brief information. They could click on the teacher’s name to go to teacher’s profile for more information on the teacher.

Users can use the search box in the navigation bar to find specific courses that they are interested in. Users can search by keywords, teacher name, and tag. Search results can be sorted by Course Name, Teacher name, and rating.

## Challenges for Learnology:

- Decision on whether we should provide a communication platform in our website (like message board) for users.

- Decision on whether we should implement payment system for Learnology.
- How to promote courses based user search history and courses taken in the past.
- Handling of misuse and inappropriate actions done of the website.
- Making sure to cater to new instructors as oppose to only benefitting the high rated and long term instructors.

## The Project (features and allocations):

Here is a list of components that your system should support:

1. **Profiling** → Catherine
  - There are mainly three sections in user profile: User's personal info, the courses that user enrolled in, and the courses user created. Account owner can go to course editing for the courses created from profile page. Account owner can also remove/delete courses he/she created or enrolled in. Account owner is able to go to profile-edit page from profile page. Account owner can decide which information to show to visitors. Visitors can view any profile page with information that account owner allows to show.
2. **User Authentication/Authorization** → Tony
  - We plan to implement username and password login as well as a Facebook authentication. Users can choose to have an account within the learnology or an account from Facebook. Based on account criterias, different interactions would be allowed (regular or admin functionalities).
3. **Social Network** → Tony & Sky
  - We plan on find a user friendly way to connect between people. In this social network, users (students) that are enrolling in courses are paired with other users (teachers). In term they can rate, review a course and as well as further connect with the teachers if they want to do so.
4. **Rating and Commenting** → Athavan
  - On the course page, students will be allowed to write reviews, which would be a combination of a 1-5 star rating, along with a written review to articulate their feelings about the course. Their name and the date of the review will also be present, to discourage anonymous, disingenuous commenting along with out-of-date irrelevant reviews. For easy viewing, each course will have an overall rating, an aggregate of all of the reviews posted, which will hopefully promote consistent excellence among our teachers.
5. **Search and Recommendation** → Sky
  - On the navigation bar, users can search for any course they might be interested in by keywords, teacher name, or tag (more options may come in part 2). The search results can be sorted by course name, teacher name, or rating (more options may come in part 2). The search system will keep track of similar search items as well as an "interest profile" of the user to put better matches higher up in the results list.
6. **Admin** → Athavan & Catherine
  - As an administrator on Learnology, you will be able to change the passwords of users, along with updating and deleting information, particularly courses or reviews that you may deem inappropriate. There will also be a database of all of the users (since a user can be either a teacher, a student, or both, all users are treated identically), and of all courses.