

Civic Story Database Project – Spring 2020

Collaborative Meeting 1 “Database Systems” and “Race, Gender and the News” Due: February 3 by end of class

Student Names:

Name	TCNJ Email Id

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Objective:

The objective of this exercise is for students in the two classes to get to know each other, develop a shared understanding of the goals of the Civic Story project, and begin to brainstorm ideas for the redesign of the database at the backend of the Civic Story website. Here is what we know about Civic Story’s goals:

- They would like their website to be able to accommodate and highlight its growing media archive. This archive includes:
 - Video news reports that reflect its brand of solutions journalism.
 - Audio and video recordings of forums on the state of the media.
- They would like to better understand the information needs of their audience and potential audiences.
- They want to provide appropriate access to what they hope will be a growing number of donors, supporters, volunteers, and media partners.
- They are interested in accommodating new kinds of content related to the state of New Jersey media, the need for the kind of the work they are doing, and the impact of their work. This might include such items as GIS data and interactive databases.

For the computer science class, these priorities might lead to questions about the kinds of users the database will need to accommodate, the level of access each type of user will need, the workflow that the database will need to facilitate, and the level of security that will be required. The journalism class will want to consider how to get the information that Civic Story and the database designers need.

Instructions:

You will work on this exercise in groups of six students. Each group will have four CSC students and two JPW students.

1. Using a browser such as Chrome, Safari, or Firefox, navigate to <https://www.civicstory.org>. Explore the site as thoroughly as possible.
2. Identify the functionality currently provided by Civic Story. List the functions and be as specific as possible. For each function or module, note whether it works as expected and any errors obtained.
3. Brainstorm ideas for how Civic Story can be organized to meet the needs of its range of stakeholders. As you discuss and brainstorm, jot down notes, ideas and responsibilities on this sheet.

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Deliverables:

Database Design

- Via Canvas, submit responses to the questions above in a .doc or .docx or .pdf file. One submission is required per group.

Race, Gender and the News

- Via Canvas, submit responses to the questions above in a .doc or .docx or .pdf file. One submission is required per group.

Purpose of the Project:

Functionality Currently Available:

(Also note whether it works as expected, any errors obtained, whether the functionality you see is hosted on the site or embedded from elsewhere. For example, is media content hosted on site or on a site such as YouTube or Soundcloud? If the latter, does this pose concerns about persistence?)

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What do you infer about the database schema? What functions should a database like this include, as a rule?

Resources / Skills Needed:

Next Steps and Responsibilities:

Additional Comments / Questions: