

DocConnect: User Flow and Functionality

Login/Registration Flow

Initial Authentication

1. User arrives at login page with email and password fields
2. New users click "Register" to access the registration form with:
 - Full name
 - Email
 - Password
 - Role selection (Professor/Student)

Role-Based Registration

1. **For Professor Registration:**
 - System verifies email domain is from an approved university list
 - Professor selects department from dropdown
 - Professor enters office location and working hours
 - On successful verification, account is created
2. **For Student Registration:**
 - Basic email verification is sent
 - No additional verification required
 - Once confirmed, student account is created

Professor Dashboard

Header Component

- Stylish gradient header (indigo to cyan) with Book+Star logo
- Language selection (FR/EN)
- Notification bell
- User profile icon
- The header shrinks slightly when scrolling for a modern effect

Sidebar Navigation

- Professor name and department displayed at top
- Navigation options:
 - Status (default active tab)
 - Announcements
 - Settings
 - Sign Out
 - Placeholder links for Questions and Appointments (inactive)

Status Management Tab

1. Status Toggle Section

- Four large, visually distinct buttons to select status:
 - Available (green): Indicates the professor is in office and ready to see students
 - Busy (red): Professor is in office but cannot be disturbed
 - Away (amber): Professor is not in the office
 - In Meeting (purple): Professor is temporarily unavailable in a meeting
- Current status is prominently displayed with timestamp of last update
- When status is changed, it's immediately updated in the system

2. Waiting Students Indicator

- Shows count of students who have requested notifications

- Displays message: "X students waiting for you to become available"
- This indicator only appears when status is not "Available"
- When professor switches to "Available", students are automatically notified

3. **Status History**

- Table showing previous status changes
- Each entry includes status, timestamp, and date
- Provides accountability and reference for the professor

Announcements Tab

1. **Create Announcement**

- Text input field for new announcements
- Submit button to publish the announcement
- Announcements appear on the professor's profile for students to see

2. **Manage Announcements**

- List of all current announcements
- Each announcement has edit and delete options
- Announcements show timestamp for when they were posted

Settings Tab

- Form to update personal information:
 - Full name
 - Department
 - Office location
 - Working hours
- Save button to update profile information

Student Dashboard

Header Component

- Identical to professor header for brand consistency
- Notification count appears on bell icon when there are unread notifications

Sidebar Navigation

- Student name displayed at top
- Navigation options:
 - All Professors (default active tab)
 - Favorites
 - Available Professors
 - Settings
 - Sign Out

All Professors Tab

1. Search and Filter

- Search bar to find professors by name
- Department filter dropdown
- Results update in real-time as you type

2. Professor Cards

- Each professor displayed in a card with:
 - Name and department
 - Current status with color indicator
 - Last status update time
 - Star icon to add/remove from favorites
 - "Notify Me" bell icon (only for non-available professors)
 - Expand/collapse button to see more details

3. Expanded Professor Details

- Office location information
- Working hours
- Any announcements from the professor
- More comprehensive profile information

4. Notification System

- When student clicks "Notify Me" bell icon:
 - Icon changes to show notification is active
 - Student will receive an email when professor becomes available
 - Confirmation message appears briefly
- Students can only set one notification per professor at a time

Favorites Tab

- Shows only professors the student has starred
- Same card format and functionality as All Professors tab
- Empty state message if no favorites have been added

Available Professors Tab

- Filters to show only professors with "Available" status
- Same card format and functionality as All Professors tab
- Real-time updates as professors change their status

Settings Tab

- Form to update personal information:
 - Name
 - Email preferences for notifications
- Save button to update settings

Key Interactions & Real-Time Features

Professor Status Change

1. Professor clicks a status button on their dashboard
2. System instantly updates the status in the database
3. All viewing students see the status change immediately
4. If status changes to "Available", notifications are triggered
5. Waiting students counter resets to zero

Student Notification Flow

1. Student finds a professor who is not currently available
2. Student clicks "Notify Me" bell icon
3. Confirmation message appears: "You will be notified when [Professor Name] becomes available"
4. On professor's dashboard, waiting students count increases by one
5. When professor changes status to "Available":
 - Email is sent to all waiting students
 - Notification icon resets on student dashboard
 - Professor's waiting students counter resets

Favorites Management

1. Student clicks star icon on a professor card
2. Professor is added to favorites list
3. Star turns yellow to indicate favorite status
4. Student can filter to view only favorite professors

Visual and Interactive Elements

Status Indicators

- Available: Green circle

- Busy: Red circle
- Away: Amber/yellow circle
- In Meeting: Purple circle
- Each status has corresponding background colors and gradients

Interactive Components

- Buttons have hover effects and subtle animations
- Notification bell has continuous animation when notifications exist
- Star icons toggle between filled and outline states
- Cards expand and collapse smoothly
- Header gradient shifts subtly when scrolling

This functionality focuses on the core value proposition of DocConnect: giving students real-time visibility into professor availability and notification when professors become available, while giving professors a simple way to communicate their status and see how many students are waiting for them.