# **CourseMine** | Competitive Analysis

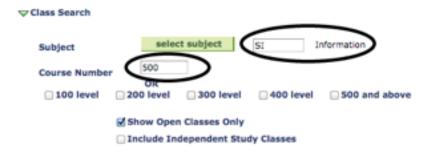
#### **Brief Problem Statement**

Students often find it difficult to make a well informed decision when selecting courses. Some of the major hurdles in choosing a course include, searching for courses across all schools (no centralized search facility connecting all schools), gathering course feedback/reviews, statistics of the course, and comparing courses. At present, these issues are addressed by finding and talking to people who have already taken the course, circulating a shared document with course information/reviews, searching on the internet, and so on. All these tasks are not only cumbersome but also result in misinterpretation and, lack of substantial information.

#### **Wolverine Access**

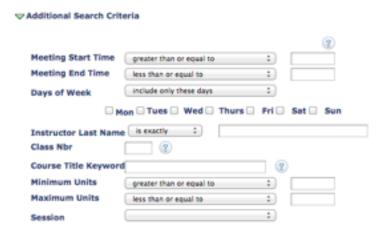
University of Michigan let's students search, manage, and register courses through Wolverine access. Some of the key pain points with the system include,

- i. Searching for a course is not intuitive and is two step process, requiring you to know
  - i. Subject code with which the course is associated with. Example SI
  - ii. Course code. Example 582



ii. Options that should be made available as filters on search results are instead included as a part of search process, and can only be seen after selecting the

## 'Advanced Search' option



- iii. The organization of search results is poorly structured.
  - i. Column headers are redundant they are repeated for every row
  - ii. Room number is not critical in the search results, it can be displayed in the course description page
  - iii. Unnecessary empty column at the end of each row
  - iv. Inability to filter search results
  - v. Instead of having symbols for status and having to look at the legend to understand what each symbol means, it is more effective to write the status in a color encoded text



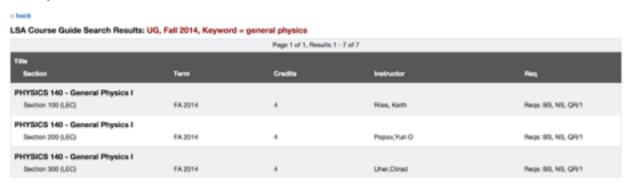
- iv. Course Details page lacks vital information like,
  - i. Reviews/Ratings of the course
  - ii. Statistics of the course over a period of time in the past

- iii. No information about related courses
- iv. No direct link to prerequisite courses, only course number is provided
- v. Some of the flaws present across the entire application
  - i. Navigation is very poorly handled states are not preserved when moving from page to page, thereby clicking on back button at any step takes you directly to the starting page
  - ii. Information is not structured/organized appropriately
  - iii. User experience can be made much better

## **LSA Course Guide**

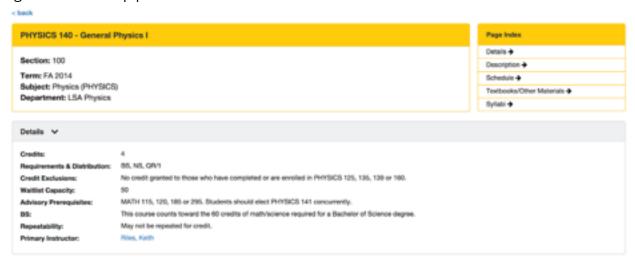
It is a course guide system designed for College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Although it provides comprehensive search facilities, it still has several problems like,

i. No way to filter/refine search results



- ii. It is important to display course timings on the search results too, as it helps to decide if there is a conflict in course timings instead of having to open each course and look for timings
- iii. It is limited to courses only from Literature, Science and Arts
- iv. Information in the course description is not intuitively organized, requiring you to click on sections or scroll down to the section, and click on the accordion title. This

## again is a two step process.



- v. Like the previous system, LSA course guide lacks critical features like,
  - i. Course Reviews/Ratings
  - ii. Statistics of the course like grade distribution, top majors, etc over a period of time in the past
  - iii. No related courses
  - iv. Question & Answers
  - v. No direct link to related courses