Internship Task: MERN + OAuth Project -- Image Search & Multi-Select

Objective:

Build a real-world full-stack project using the MERN stack (MongoDB, Express.js, React.js, Node.js) and OAuth authentication. This task evaluates your understanding of authentication, frontend/backend integration, and data management.

Project Goal:

- Only authenticated users can search images.

- Search results are fetched from Unsplash API.

- Results are displayed in a multi-select grid format.

- Users can view top searches across all users.

- Each user has a personal search history.

Functional Requirements:

1. Authentication

Use OAuth login via Google, Facebook, and GitHub using Passport.js. Only logged-in users can search or view their history.

2. Top Searches Banner

API: GET /api/top-searches

Display top 5 most frequent search terms across all users. Show this as a banner at the top of the app.

3. Search Functionality

API: POST /api/search with { term }

Backend:

- Store { userId, term, timestamp } in MongoDB.

- Call Unsplash Search API and return image results.

Frontend:

- Show "You searched for X' -- N results."

- Display images in a 4-column grid.

- Overlay each image with a checkbox for multi-select.

4. Multi-Select Counter

Track selected images using client-side state. Display a dynamic counter like: "Selected: X images" above the grid.

5. User's Search History

API: GET /api/history

Show the logged-in user's past search terms with timestamps. Can be shown in a sidebar or below the results.

Project Structure:

/client (React frontend)

/server (Express backend)

Deliverables:

1. GitHub Repository with:

   - Full code for /client and /server.

   - OAuth + Unsplash integration.

2. README File including:

   - Setup instructions (with .env details for Unsplash API and OAuth keys).

   - Explanation of folder structure.

   - Postman Collection or cURL examples for all API endpoints.

3. Visual Proof (in the repo or attached):

   - Screenshots/GIFs of:

    - OAuth login

    - Top Searches banner

    - Search results + multi-select

    - Search history section

Deadline:

Submit the task within 7 days of receiving this assignment.

Feel free to reach out if you need any help.

Best of luck!

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