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Thesis Description

My thesis project, at the moment known as Gifter, will be an application specifically targeted for iOS. The API will be written in Java for speed and familiarity with the language while the front end will be made up of Swift and Objective-C. My 401 thesis involved writing an Android client for the social network we developed, and I wanted to see what iOS had to offer in order to see the contrast between the two platforms. The primary function of my application is for users to be able to create a wish list of items that they would like to one day buy or have bought for them. They will have a list of friends so that they can view their friends' wish lists and purchase or donate a specified amount towards a specific item or items. It is crowd-sourced gift giving with a more personal touch to it.

The primary reason for choosing this type of project is my desire to learn the iOS platform as well as gain experience in writing a RESTful API. I have had very little experience with mobile development and even less with writing the server-side portion of a mobile application. I have chosen Java for the server-side language for its speed and familiarity. I would ideally like to get this to the point where I can conduct actual transactions and purchase something through my application. It will be directly interfacing with Amazon's inventory, and with some luck, my application will make purchases through Amazon on behalf of my users. Focusing on iOS is limiting my user base in scope, but my end goal with this part of the project is to interface with Apple Pay. This last holiday season was what gave me the true inspiration for this project because I have always found it difficult to purchase gifts for friends and relatives. I would find it very useful to know what those people want, be able to purchase it with a touch of a button and an authentication of my thumb print, and have the option to split the cost of those

gifts with other friends. I do not think that this application is ground-breaking or earth-shattering, but it will lend me countless useful skills.