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ULAB Foodcafe.com
(food ordering system)

Submitted to

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Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

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Project Proposal for Foodcafe website

Project Title

ULAB Foodcafe (food ordering system)

Team Name: nova

Team Members

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Project Objectives

This project aims to design and develop a web-based food ordering system for the ULAB FoodCafe, enabling students, faculty, and staff to order meals easily through an online platform. It will streamline the process of viewing menus, placing orders, and tracking order status digitally.

The main objectives of the project are as follows:

1. Allow users (students, faculty, staff) to view the daily menu online.
2. Enable online ordering and pre-ordering of food items.
3. Provide real-time order tracking and status updates.
4. Allow cafeteria staff to manage menu items and update availability.
5. Allow admin to monitor sales reports, user feedback, and peak-hour activity.
6. Promote cashless transactions through secure digital payments.

Introduction

In universities, long queues and limited time often make food ordering a hassle for students and faculty members. The ULAB FoodCafe Web-Based Food Ordering System is designed to provide a convenient, efficient, and paperless way to order food from the campus cafeteria.

Through this system:

1. Students, faculty, and staff can browse the daily menu, place food orders, and check preparation status.

2. Cafeteria staff can manage orders, mark items as “ready for pickup,” and update menu availability.

3. Admin can analyze reports, manage feedback, and monitor overall operations digitally.

This project will significantly reduce waiting time, improve service efficiency, and create a smarter cafeteria experience at ULAB.

Features

a. User Registration and Login

- Separate roles for Students, Faculty, and Staff.
- Secure signup with ULAB email verification.

b. Daily Menu Management

- Cafeteria staff can upload and update the daily menu with prices and stock status.
- Menu categorized by meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks, Drinks).

c. Online Ordering and Pre-Ordering

- Users can order food online or pre-order for later pickup.
- “Add to Cart” and “Confirm Order” features.

d. Order Tracking System

- Real-time order status: Pending → Preparing → Ready for Pickup → Completed.

e. Payment Options

- Multiple payment choices: cash, card, or digital wallet (e.g., bKash, Nagad).

f. Feedback and Ratings

- Users can give feedback or rate meals and services.

g. Admin Dashboard

- Admin monitors total sales, popular dishes, peak hours, and user activity.
- Generates reports and insights for performance analysis.

Target Users

Students: Browse menu, pre-order meals, and collect food without waiting.
Faculty: Quickly order during short breaks, ensuring time efficiency.
Staff: Access meal plans, order conveniently, and manage payments.
Cafeteria Staff: Update menu, process orders, and track order status.
Admin: Oversee operations, reports, and user management.

Technology Stack

Frontend: HTML, CSS, JavaScript
Backend: PHP (Laravel Framework)
Database: MySQL / phpMyAdmin
Hosting: XAMPP during development, later deployable on live server
Payment Gateway: bKash / Nagad API integration

Literature Review

FoodPanda(https://www.foodpanda.com/): FoodPanda is one of the most popular global food delivery platforms, known for connecting customers with local restaurants through a simple and efficient online interface. It offers features such as real-time order tracking, secure online payment, and a user-friendly design that enhances customer satisfaction. Research highlights that FoodPanda's success comes from its strong focus on convenience, visual menus, and quick delivery processing.The ULAB FoodCafe Web-Based Food Ordering System adapts these features to a university environment, allowing students, faculty, and staff to browse menus easily, place orders, and track their food status in real time.

HungryNaki(https://www.hungrynaki.com/): HungryNaki is a Bangladeshi online food delivery service that focuses on local restaurant listings, menu management, and quick delivery. It ensures a smooth experience with real-time order updates, cashless transactions, and secure payment gateways like bKash and Nagad. The platform is widely used for its reliability and localized service across Bangladesh.The ULAB FoodCafe system adopts similar order management and payment integration techniques but applies them to an internal university setup. This approach ensures a fast and reliable digital ordering system suitable for campus use.

DoorDash(https://www.doordash.com/): DoorDash is a U.S.-based online food delivery platform that uses data analytics and optimized delivery routing to improve efficiency and reduce waiting times. It prioritizes customer satisfaction by offering features such as scheduled orders, real-time delivery tracking, and performance analytics for restaurants.Inspired by DoorDash's efficiency model, the ULAB FoodCafe system aims to reduce long queues during rush hours by enabling online pre-ordering and pickup scheduling, improving time management for both students and cafeteria staff.

Domino's Online Ordering Platform (https://www.dominos.com/): Domino's online system allows customers to order and customize their food. The Domino's Tracker shows the order progress in real time which makes customers happy and more confident. Customers can add items according to their preferences. Research shows that this system reduces mistakes and saves time. It also makes online payments easy and gives updates about delivery. The ULAB Cafeteria Ordering System will use the same idea letting students pre-order food choose a pickup time and collect it when it's ready. This will make the cafeteria faster more organized and easier for everyone.

Uber Eats (https://www.ubereats.com/): Uber Eats is a globally recognized online food delivery platform operated by Uber Technologies. It connects users with nearby restaurants through an integrated mobile and web interface. The platform stands out for its smart delivery algorithms, GPS-based real-time tracking, and dynamic delivery fee calculation. Uber Eats also allows users to customize orders, schedule deliveries, and receive live updates about order preparation and courier location. The platform emphasizes user convenience, transparency, and speed, which have contributed to its widespread adoption worldwide.The ULAB FoodCafe Web-Based Food Ordering System adopts similar design principles by enabling users (students, faculty, and staff) to place food orders online and track their status. However, it is developed on a smaller institutional scale, focusing on reducing cafeteria congestion and improving food service efficiency within the university campus rather than city-wide delivery.