**Project Biography**

Deliverables Checklist and Location where Deliverable can be Found:

* Intro Pitch Slide Deck: <https://github.com/tannermurphy96/ctl/blob/master/Intro%20Pitch%20.pptx>
* Feedback From User Testing: Michelle and Kate both mentioned that they would reach out to Professor Colarusso.
* Solution Documentation: https://github.com/SuffolkLITLab/docassemble-CounterClaimForDivorce
* Final Technical Solution: <https://github.com/SuffolkLITLab/docassemble-CounterClaimForDivorce>
* Letter From Partner: I slacked with Professor Colarusso on Thursday, December 10th, and provided information regarding continued upkeep.
* Project Biography: <https://github.com/tannermurphy96/ctl>
* Project Title, Links to my repo and my biography: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UJ_finoT82CiCfQzhhvNwmFzispp-GM7mI5O3n67f_g/edit#gid=648816382>

Below you can find information related to the process and product elements of my final project. Both the process and project elements are further broken down into their sub-elements. Sub elements are derived from the Final Project Rubric. However, first, the synopsis sums up the project as well as provides recommendations for next year’s Coding the Law students.

**Synopsis**

My final project focused on building an online interview that a user can take in order to automatically fill out the Massachusetts’s Counterclaim for Divorce form. Overall, the project was an iterative process that required assistance from subject matter, and technical experts. Demo played a key role in creating an effective interview as it allowed me to understand what needed to be re-worked and why. Overall, the project proved to be challenging yet rewarding.

For those who chose to work on a similar project, or who endeavor to further tweak the Counterclaim for Divorce form in a subsequent semester, I implore you to familiarize yourself with YAML early on. Coding (at least in the context of this project) seemed to be like riding a bike. Once you learn, it becomes second nature, but until then, it’s a daunting task. My advice is to find a way to play around with YAML code at least once a day over the course of the semester. That way, come final project time, you’ll have a solid baseline understanding of some key YAML elements.

**Process**

* Framing: The problem that this project sought to solve was, how to make the counterclaim for divorce form intuitive to a degree that allows the user to fill it out without an attorney present.
* Research: The research process was iterative, however, at the beginning, research included understanding other solutions to filing a Counterclaim for Divorce form. Mass. Gov lists the form online, and allows a user to fill it out using an interactive PDF.

Before I began the development stage, I met with my subject matter expert, Kate Berry, in order to understand how the form would best logically flow from beginning to end. Additionally, she noted that the Counterclaim for Divorce form contains legalese that can be difficult to understand and thus re-writing certain language would be imperative.

* Ideation & Prototyping: Given that my project was part of the assembly line project, my options were to either create a docassemble interview or leave the form alone for the reason that it was already sufficiently accessible to users. As mentioned above, legalese can make the form difficult to understand and thus the former was clearly the preferable solution.
* User Testing: Upon completion of a working interview, I demoed the interview to Kate Berry. Her suggestions included (1) removing the attorney section (2) re-wording language that could be confusing to users (3) and making the server information the same as the plaintiff information.

* Refinement: Throughout the development process I met with Michelle multiple time in order to correct bugs in my code as well as work on certain areas of code that went beyond my expertise. After my final demo with Kate, I met with Michelle once was more and we implemented Kate’s suggestions. Both and Kate and Michelle were incredibly helpful and integral to this project’s success.

**Product**

* Intro Pitch: The intro pitch can be found above.
* Complexity / Robustness: My original plan was to implement a data scraper that combed for applicable counseling centers based on a user’s input of certain key words. However, I was unable to do that.
* Impact & Efficiencies: The interview will certainly expand the reach of a single practitioner as well as cut down on time.
* Fit / Completeness: Through my work with Michelle and Kate I believe I was able to create an interview that allows the user to stay on the interview page entirety of the interview rather than navigate back and forth between the form and the applicable statutory code.
* Documentation: All necessary documentation is included in my repo and can be found above.
* Real World Viability: I believe there are still bugs and minor code issues that need to be worked out before the interview is ready for real-world use.
* Sustainability: The plan for continued to success was discussed with Professor Colarusso as mentioned above.