

Criterion A

The scenario: (refer to Appendix 1)

My client is my school's guidance counsellor. Throughout the school year, she has to manage numerous meetings with students, and this becomes quite overwhelming. She normally communicates with the students through email to set up meeting times. She uses "post-it notes to jolt down meeting dates and times" as on her desk. This is not an effective organisational system as they can get lost, and it gets messy when having to reschedule meetings. Furthermore, as she explained in the interview, students usually send her emails asking about availability that "can be easily lost or forgotten" in the mass of emails that the counsellor receives. With this current system, a student needs to exchange multiple communications with the counsellor in order to decide on a time that corresponds with both of their availability. She has also informed me that she has tried to use other calendar platforms to organise the meetings, but she has found them too difficult to use since they are made to encapsulate other types of events. In addition, those platforms don't have the option for students to add their own notes informing the counsellor of the topic of the meeting.

The proposed product:

My solution is to create an efficient platform that facilitates this process, setting up guidance meetings for students and helping counsellors manage their schedule. This program will provide students and counsellors with multiple functionalities that solve the problems listed above and add a couple of other functionalities that I have discussed with my client. Firstly, the user will need to login, determining the functions they can utilise. For counsellors, they are going to be able to view all of the upcoming meetings and check their notes, cancel meetings and search meetings by students and students by universities. For the students, they are going to be able to schedule meetings with the counsellor and add notes they would like to go over, view account and meeting details and indicate the universities they are interested in.

Because this program will not be using any outside sources, there will be no compatibility issues with this project. The program saves data to a file and reads from it when it is opened, so there are no external changes being made that would cause compatibility issues.

For this project I will be using Java, as it is the language I have the most experience with and it suits the project best. This is because in order to create this complex program, I will need to create multiple classes and objects, something that this coding language is well suited for. In

addition, I also wanted to use this language since I have to read to and from files, a task which is particularly challenging with Java and would help expand my abilities.

My project will be constructed within Apache Netbeans. Using this development environment will facilitate the creation of the user interface required for this project. As a result, I am able to customise the environment of my GUI using the built-in tools provided. In addition, due to the modular architecture of the platform, my project will be easily extensible.

Success Criteria

1. Users can login as either a counsellor or a student
2. Students can schedule meetings and input details in a note section
3. Students can select which universities they want to go to
4. Counsellors and students can view all meetings in an “upcoming” list
5. Counsellor can cancel meetings, with the student receiving a warning about the update
6. Counsellors can search scheduled meetings based on the student and universities

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