Web Programming II
2017 Spring
Assignment III

Team members:

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1.0 Introduction

This brief report will cover our work on assignment three in web programming two. It will describe how we as a team organised our collaboration and argue for our design and implementation choices.

2.0 Team and collaboration

The team consisted of Thomas Hesselberg, Anders Martinsen and Mats Gundersen. At the first team-meeting we discussed how to approach the assignment. We thought out and discussed what pages the site should consist of, and made a site-map to get an overview over the different pages of the site.

At the same meeting we also agreed to use Git and GitHub for code collaboration. Furthermore we agreed to use facebook messenger as the main tool for communication and to use the framework Laravel. We all agreed to use the first week of the assignment to watch tutorials and read documentation of the framework before starting the actual project.

We did not assign specific tasks to each member of the group. The result of this was that some members contributed more than others. It did however not lead to any arguments or bad mood in the group.

During the assignment we only had one more meeting before delivery. At this meeting we discussed the final work needed to be done to finish, and we helped each other out with different bug fixing.

3.0 Design

In our first meeting we came to the conclusion that we wanted our web page to have a minimalistic look and feel. The team also wanted the page to be easy to use and the navigation between pages should be intuitive. To achieve this we went with a design which gives the user not too many choices at once. We also went with light colors to give the page a friendly and clean feeling.

4.0 Implementation

The group decided to implement the Laravel php framework. We did some research and found that this is a very popular and well documented framework. Although we only had one lecture about this framework during our semester, we wanted to challenge ourselves to learn the framework and implement it in this assignment. Laravel was very useful and made functionality such as login, registration and authentication fast and easy to implement. It also provided hashing of passwords and checking authentication which is an important security measure. Furthermore we used Laravel's CSRF token to protect our application from cross-site request forgeries and we also used Laravel's validation of user input data.

The group decided to use Bootstrap made by Twitter. Every member of the team had used it before and the Laravel framework has boostrap integrated ready to use. Bootstrap helped us make the page responsive so the web site would work seamlessly on mobile phone. It also has a lot of design elements. This saved us a lot of time when it comes to css styling.

The team used XAMPP for our php development environment. This makes it easy to run a local server to test the site. It comes with MariaDB and phpmyadmin which is an web app to browse and manage database.

5.0 Conclusion

We are proud of the end result of this assignment. The website we've created fulfils all the given requirements, in addition to having even more functionality. It was fun working with Laravel framework and we have learned a lot. However, if we have had more time we would have liked to implement more functionality. It would have been useful if the user could edit their own profile and posts, and it needs an admin entry to be able to admin users and delete inappropriate content.