

Documentation for HCI Project

1 Use cases

2 Design Documentation

In this section you can find design documentation about individual pages of the system. The title of each section reflects only who wrote the respective section, not who designed and implemented the page in the prototype.

2.1 Authentication Page (Tom)

The authentication page is the entry point to the system and as such we designed it very carefully. It exists in 3 versions:

1. a normal version,
2. a version for when the user enters an incorrect password and
3. a version for when the user has just signed out of the system.

Each of the versions has the same basic layout. The only real content of the page is centered. It contains a heading, input elements for username and password as well as a submit button. We designed it this way because we want to draw the users attention to its use, being as minimalistic as possible. However because it is the first contact any user has with the system we wanted to leave an impression and added a fancy¹ background image.

EdN:1

When the user accesses the sign in page for the first time, the keyboard automatically focuses the username field. This makes it easy for the user to sign into the system. When the user enters a wrong password they end up the second version of the page, which in addition has an error message and a forgot password link. The keyboard is automatically focused on the password field so the user can quickly re-enter the password since it is more likely that the password, and not the username, is incorrect. To further speed up login in, the username field keeps the value entered in the first sign in attempt.

During (paper) prototype testing a tester mentioned that it would be convenient to have reset password functionality, so we added a link for it. On the linked page the user can enter their username and then gets an email

¹EDNOTE: Replace this with a different word?

with a link to reset the password¹. This page does not have the username pre-entered or an auto-focus functionality because we want to prevent abuse of the system.

The third version of the authentication is shown after the user signs out of the system. It contains a small message to ensure that the user knows they have been signed out. Furthermore it auto-focuses the username field to enable the user to quickly sign in again. An earlier version did not contain a sign in form but only a message that the user had been logged out, however this was criticized during paper prototype testing.

2.2 Student Landing Page (Naomi)

- Students are provided with an overview of upcoming deadlines and how much of the tasks are done (e.g. if the student finished 4 out of 5 tasks it will visually show 80%). This will help students remember all their deadlines.
- Links on the visual representation of the percentages will allow students to quickly navigate to the assignments that are due.
- To limit the information that is on the screen previous courses are only shown when the student clicks on the rider for previous courses. This ensures that the page provides an easily processable overview without clutter.
- In the Enrolled Courses section, the student can access all courses he is currently enrolled in.

2.3 TA Landing Page (Nick)

The TA landing page is the same as the student one. In this demo we did not want to duplicate all the menu items for the TA, we have not added any content. In an actual implementation of the system, the menu entry of the TA landing page would include the TAs courses under "Current courses" and "Previous courses" respectively.

¹Because this is simply a prototype only the form is implemented, not the actual mail being sent. We also do not have a layout for the reset password page. If this system were to be used at Jacobs, the reset link might be removed because CampusNet accounts are used and we can not reset the password externally.

2.4 Profile Pages (Tom)

2

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2.5 Current courses page (Roxana)

3

EdN:3

2.6 Previous courses page (Vlad)

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EdN:4

2.7 TA Grading Page (Nick)

- Assignments, sorted in descending order by “% ungraded”, followed by “most distant due date in the past” are selected from a main TA dashboard for the course showing numbers of graded tasks, a list of students, and other information.
- “We placed the comment box before the grade box in order to encourage TAs to provide comments for grades; when tabbing through the page, the comment field will be selected first”
- Ample space is provided between assignment entries in order to reduce the chance of visual confusion. In a complete implementation, JavaScript would also be used to turn the currently selected row/row fields are in grey in order to further differentiate what’s being edited.
- A single submit grades button, which floats throughout the page for easy access, reduces the number of steps necessary to enter a grade, which is important for TAs when grading large numbers of small assignments.
- Different sizes between the comment and grade fields provide further visual differentiation.

²EdNOTE: Write this section

³EdNOTE: Write this

⁴EdNOTE: Write this