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**Project 1: Write-up**

**CS-518- Web Programming**

**User login:** Initially a login table was created in the database with 3 attributes, id (which is auto incremented and is to count the users), username (predefined), and password (predefined). The table was predefined with five accounts for vaishu, mweigle, ta, shravan and kran. Following wrong credentials, user gets a message saying “Userid password combination is not found”. If the login is successful, the current page is reloaded with username on the top and logout option next to it.

**Viewing and posting messages:** Anyone who has opened the link can view the posted messages (.i.e. registered and unregistered users but cannot post a message unless he has an account and is logged in. As the forum is about technology and has several subtopics, a Topic table is created with attributes topicid, name, time, userid and a ’post’ table is created in the data base with attributes as postid, userid (a foreign key with id from login table ), time and message (data entered by the user) and topicid. Here topicid and userid are the foreign key constraints so as to relate every post to its respective topic and user. Every table has userid as the foreign key so as to link every action to the user who provoked it. A replies table is also created with attributes replyid,reply message, time, userid and postid, but is not yet used in the forum. User can logout with the option on the top left and the same page is refreshed with sign in option again.

**Design Decision:** The homepage and forum with several topics and posts in it is visible for any user. To post a message the user has to log in with his username and password. Every post is followed by the time and the user who posted it. Homepage has some introduction about the forum and also option forum in the menu, which when clicked take the user to the forums page with several topics and messages in it.

**Page Layout**: To make all the pages look uniform, we have implemented a common footer and header that will be included in every page. The header view contains a top navigation menu that also holds the login form. When a user is logged in, the username and logout button replaces the login form. Using bootstrap responsive CSS, We made the page scalable across devices of various screen sizes. So on a mobile device, the navigation menu falls back to an accordion. For page load optimization, all the CSS files have been linked on top of the page in the header and all the JavaScript files are included at the bottom. We are also making use of web font (Glyphicons).

**Programming Tricks:**

Technologies Used: PHP, HTML5, CSS3, Twitter Bootstrap UI Framework, JQuery, Github for version control.

Index page currently displays the static description pf the forum. Forum page displays the posts group by their topics in individual panels. Total number of posts in each topic are displayed in the badges on the top right of the respective panels. When logged in, a new post button is included in the bottom of every topic that lets user post which is designed using a modal and opened using jQuery when user clicks on the button.

Code in the directory is divided into three parts, Assets, Lib and Tiles. Main directory has the actual pages forums, index and logout. .Assets has all css, JavaScript pages and fonts pages i.e.: Glyphicons. Lib has the logic php pages. Tiles have the header and footer pages.

**Helpful Resources:** The helpful resources are the course documents and the links as follows,

<http://www.w3schools.com/php/default.asp>

<http://stackoverflow.com/>

<http://getbootstrap.com/getting-started/>

<http://getbootstrap.com/css/>

<http://php.net/>

**Division of Labour/Responsibilities:** Both our partners are equally involved in both front end and backend designing. Shravan took the responsibility of CSS design for the main page, some part of the HTML and also helped with some suggestions for the page layout. Vyshnavi worked on the PHP, remaining part of HTML and JavaScript part of the code. UI was taken from the bootstrap examples and was totally changed according to our design. There was a stage when Vyshnavi was stuck with the PHP part in forum page about displaying new post option and Shravan helped in this part.