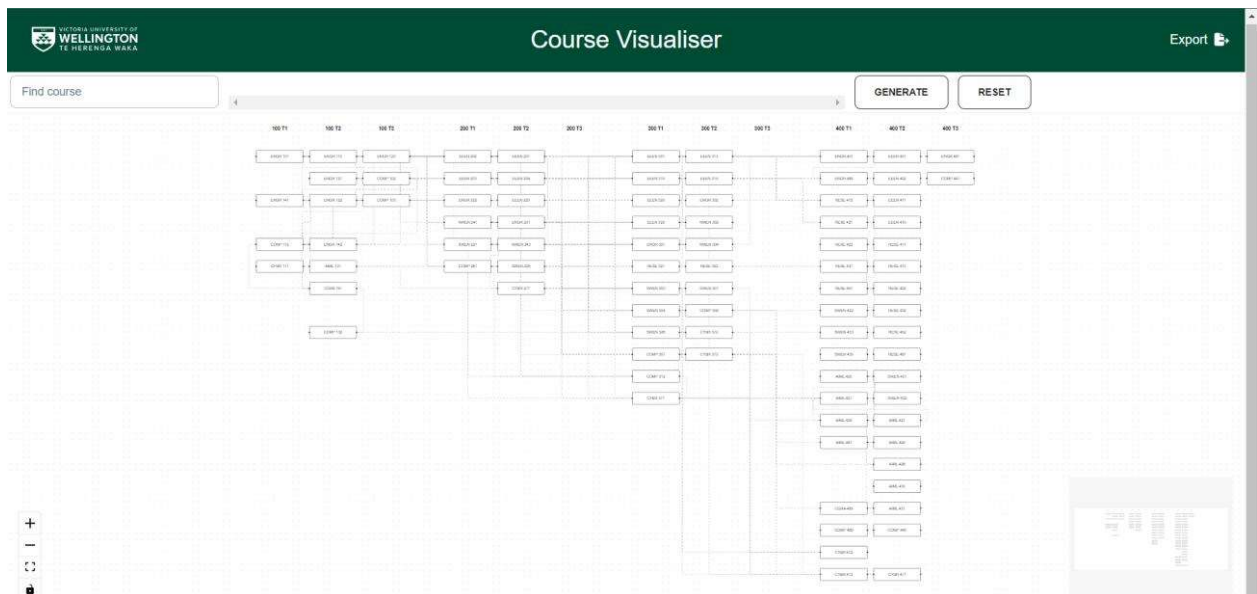


ENGR302 – Course Visualiser UX Review

During the creation of the UI for our Course Visualiser project, the UI underwent many large changes. Due to this, our group felt it was important to run a full UX review.



The project is hosted on “course.visualiser.tech” domain, with the above screenshot being the page seen upon initial loading of the webpage.

Upon the initial loading of the webpage, the view of the webpage displays the major point of the project – the graph tool.

Grid Layout: The grid structure provides a clear and organized representation of courses across different terms or years. This tabular format makes it easy for users to understand course progressions and prerequisites.

Whitespace: The website effectively utilizes whitespace, ensuring that the content doesn't feel cramped. It aids in visually grouping related elements and enhances readability.

Moving onto the navigation/flow side of the webpage, there are three main points here; Search function, zoom (in/out) and the Generate/Reset buttons.

Search Functionality: The 'Find course' search bar at the top is prominent, allowing users to quickly search for a specific course. A search functionality is vital for sites with vast information to help users quickly find what they need.

Buttons: The "GENERATE" and "RESET" buttons are evident and well placed. These along with the export button make sure that the user is aware of the full functionality of the website.

Zoom Controls: The plus and minus buttons in the bottom left corner offer zoom functionality for the graph. This is essential for visual-heavy content, ensuring that users can focus on details or get a broader overview as needed.

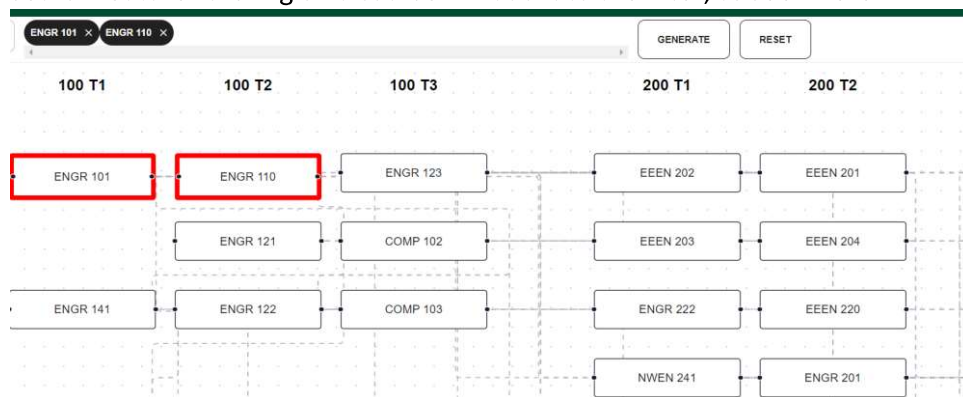
Moving on from the navigation side of the webpage, the colour, visuals and connections all play an important role in keeping the website looking clean.

Colour: With the University's main colour being green – we felt that it was important to have aspects of the app coloured using the same shade of green. This makes the website look clean and professional, whilst following the design scheme of the university.

Connections/Graph tool: The lines connecting the courses provide a clear visual representation of course sequences or prerequisites. This is highly beneficial for students planning their academic journeys by providing a clear representation of a suitable path of course choices for them to potentially choose.

Interactivity / Feedback is an important part of a webpage, by making the user aware of what their actions on the webpage are doing.

Boxes/Buttons: The "Find course" button is in a logical place (top left-hand corner) and acts as a simple search feature. Clicking on a course will add it to the filter, as seen here:



Adding a course will also be highlighted in red, which also allows the user to have a visual confirmation of the course that was added (including courses already added).

Export: The export feature also provides interactivity, allowing the user to export the Graph to a PDF.

Improvements: Whilst the webapp looks and feels great, there is some room for improvement. There is a lack of a functional mobile interface - which leaves users guessing as to how it works. An improvement upon this would allow for much more access to the visualiser.

Another useful improvement is some accessibility features, such as a colourblind mode. This will add a layer of usability to help ensure all users are able to use the webapp effectively.

The website provides a structured and visually organized way for users to visualize course sequences, which can be invaluable for academic planning. With a clean design, clear grid layout, and focus on user-centric features, the website appears to be user-friendly. However, as with any design, there are always areas to refine and improve, especially when considering diverse user needs and accessibility.