

Project Elixir Plan: Overview of Features and Implementation

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Project Plan Version 1.0

Project Core Features:

1. User Accounts System

Overview:

- Users can create new account on the system.
 - Email address as unique key.
 - Password (>5 char)
 - Name field to be identified as publically.
 - Field is defaulted to the first part of their email before the @ symbol to force user to fill this in.
 - User can optionally set a profile photo.
 - Book exchange contact information (Facebook Messenger Link)
- Users can log in to their respective accounts.
- System features to check user authentication to be used on other pages. Easy function will be needed.

Description:

This system will allow users to create an account. The user's email address will be used as their username (unique identification), and the user will create a password. The user will have the option to enter a name that will identify them; if they choose not to, the default name will be the first part of their email before the "@" symbol. The user will also have the option to upload a profile photo. Users will have the ability to log in to their respective accounts, with system features in place to check user authentication.

2. Add Textbooks to Listing

Overview:

- Users will be able to click a button to add a textbook to the directory of textbooks on bid in menu bar and elsewhere.
- Particulars of this user experience to be outlined in UI design process.
- Core Data Points Collected:
 - Textbook Title
 - ISBN Number
 - Author
 - Publisher
 - Version (if provided on book)
 - Year Published
 - Description of textbook, describing condition and history of book.
 - Book Rating (Percentage scale, 0-100)
 - Date book auction to close.

- Date you obtained the book.
- Additional Data Points:
 - Original price you paid for book. (Not published, used for analytics).
 - Course and University using book.
 - Format: CS2212 (Western University)
- Photos of Book:
 - 1 photo of cover.
 - 1 photo of the worst page in the book.
 - And Estimate of % of pages in this condition.
 - 1 photo of the best page in the book. (Optional Photo)
 - And Estimate of % of pages in this condition.
 - 1 photo of the average page in the book. (Optional Photo)
 - And Estimate of % of pages in this condition.

Description:

Users will be able to easily add a textbook to the public sales directory of books available. This process will center around the photos showing the specific book on offer and an honest rating of the quality. This enables transparency which will help establish trust with the seller.

3. Website New User Home Page

Overview:

- Basic landing page with logo, login, and register link at the top of the page (more info in UI overview).
- Center of main page will allow users to search the directory of textbooks available.
- Optionally: show 3-4 popular textbooks now on the home page if the design fits well.
- Very basic footer with name of company.

4. Textbook Search

Overview:

- Users will be able to search for available textbooks without an account. This will help the book postings get a lot of public exposure and allow a new incentive for people to sign up for an account.
- This search field will be on the home page, and on the top of every search results page, and on the top of every textbook listing page.
- Ability to search by Textbook Title or Course Code
- After searching, search results will be displayed (see UI Mockup):
 - List of textbooks matching criteria:
 - Display only important textbook features in search result page:
 - Important: title, author, minimum sell point, bid close date, textbook cover photo
 - Click to see full textbook features on textbook page

Description:

Users will be able to summon textbooks that meet their requirements. They can search by name, and course code.

5. Website Logged in Dashboard

Overview:

- Default user logged in page will be the search results of the entire directory with the books with the closest bid closing time showing at the top, sub sorted by the most popular books by number of bids placed.

6. Textbook Page

Overview:

- Will display all known attributes of textbook and house the bidding functionality.
- This page will be accessed by click bid or the name of a textbook on the search results page.

7. Textbook Bid Functionality

Overview:

- Each user sets a bid ceiling, which is the maximum they would pay for the textbook. This price point is entered once and cannot be altered.
- Users must log in to their account to submit the bid, the box will show publically but if a user tries to save their bid value it prompts them to first create an account.
 - If they sign up it should then redirect them back to this page.
- All bids (ceilings) must be above the minimum sell point specified by the seller.
- At the end of the auction the top bidder pays the ceiling set by the second highest bidder + \$5.
 - The user will not pay higher than their ceiling.
 - Whole dollar values.
- In the case of tie, the winner will be the first bidder

8. Bid Winner Selected On Textbook Sale Date & Textbook Seller View of Textbook Page

Overview:

- Owner of the textbook will get an expanded view of the textbook page which shows the number of bids which have been placed, and the current sale price (calculated as described above).
- When the bidding has concluded the seller will see a list of the 3 top bidders and the price they are expected to pay (calculated as described above).
 - Each users name.
 - Each user's facebook profile to contact by messenger.
- Seller can delete textbook from directory with a button on this page, this is set up with cascade in MySQL

Project Optional Stretch Features:

1. Email Notifications

Overview:

- Using Postmark API we will dispatch email messages to the user accounts.
- Users will need to verify their email in the registration process.
- Users will be notified when a bid is complete that they participated in.
- Users will be notified if they won the bid to reach out to the seller.

2. Post-sale Seller Rating

Overview:

- Sellers will need to mark with which of the 3 top bidders the transaction was completed with.
- This user will receive an email with 5 stars in it to select a rating for the seller.
 - Each star linking to a separate quick link which stores their rating.
- Seller profiles will contain the average of these ratings.

3. Social Media Login System

Overview:

- User accounts can be created with social media as opposed to by email address and password.
- Photo automatically pulled from the social media.
- Facebook.
- Twitter.

4. Offer Link to Book on Amazon

Overview:

- If the searched book is not in our system, link to Amazon page to buy book will be displayed with Amazon referral program.
- This amazon price will be showed on book listings to give an idea of the market value of a book.

5. Autofill book characteristics when user is uploading the book

Overview:

- As user types in title the system compares it to existing books and attempts to auto fill other form fields to expedite the process.

6. User Dashboard Extension

Overview:

- Active auctions both selling and bidding.

7. Buyer Rating System

Overview:

- See seller rating system desc.

8. Profile Page

Overview:

- Shows purchase and sale history.
- Shows rating by 3rd parties.