

CEng 491 Project Proposal

Company Name: 4DSmarTech

Project Members:

Mehmet Akif TAŞKIRMAZ “Leader and Gate Keeper”
Abdullah ÖZTÜRK “Initiator and Devil’s Advocate”
Serhat MEŞE “Recorder and Summarizer”
Fırat KIZILER “Optimist and Timekeeper”

Project Title: Virtual Classroom Tool (VIRCLASS)

Project Scope and Description:

This project aims to develop a web based application for synchronous distance learning with multimedia facilities.

The application provides network broadcasting of a multimedia lecture given by a trainer to multiple clients. According to the previously determined schedule, the lectures are given by the trainer online. Already enrolled participants can log on the system.

The clients watch the trainer on live and participate in the lectures interactively. For example, they can ask questions by audio voice or sending text messages. These questions are collected in somewhere to be answered by the trainer at the end of the lecture. Also, the trainer can make yes/no polling, instant surveys to take the ideas of the clients.

The participants can communicate with each other by private/public text chats or audio chats. The chats are made under the control of the instructor, that is, he/she has the permission to see the private ones.

At the end of each lecture, there will be automatically graded quizzes.

Other than the lectures, there are office hours which will be held on the same as the lectures in terms of asking questions.

In addition to the video window, there is a shared board on which the lecturer show the materials about the lecture. These materials include slides, animations and videos, etc. These materials are saved for later review.

There is a database about the terminology of the course. The user accesses this database via a window whenever he/she wants.

The trainer sometimes divides the participants into groups and give assignments to each group.

There is a course map property which gives all the required information about the course. For example, the participants can access all the lectures given previously and they can get information about the attendance, grades and schedule.

There is a dynamic help part which will guide user about the usage of the application. Help content changes according to the currently continuing tasks.

There is a WAP site for the newsgroup of the courses. All the clients can access this site via cellular phones or PDAs in order to read the discussions and announcements about the courses. This newsgroup will also be available in the web based application.

Hardware and Software Requirements:

- PC (with microphone-headset combination, high speed internet connection)
- Video camera
- Microsoft Visual Studio .Net
- MS SQL Server
- WAP server

First Meeting Summary

First of all, we have determined the leader of the group. Then we decided the roles of the group members. The roles are as follows:

Mehmet Akif TAŞKIRMAZ “Leader and Gate Keeper”
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After deciding the roles, we scheduled the weekly meeting hours. In addition we decided some rules:

- Each group member must participate in each meeting
- Each group member must present their researches in written format
- All decisions are made unanimously

Finally, we focused on the project specifications, our aim to achieve at the end of the term.

In the Virtual Class meeting on Friday, we scheduled our group meeting with our supervisor to be on Thursday 12:40.