

Rohan Varma

Project Milestone Report

Major Changes: There are no major changes to the goals or implementations of my project. Everything is continuing on as described in the proposal.

Accomplishments Thus Far: I have specifically built a Django web application, in collaboration with Adam, to prototype the system that we designed. I built a user system, a live chat system, and a question answering system. We then took this system and did user-testing with 10 people during a lab meeting. We took the feedback from the user-testing and iterated on our previous design to account for it. Based on the feedback, we shifted the focus of our system from a question-answering system and are now focusing more on fostering the relationship between the mentor and mentees.

Meeting Milestone: The milestone was partially met. In the milestone I stated that it was a goal to do one to two rounds of prototyping and iterating. We were able to do one round of prototyping/iterating and we are currently building the next prototype. It is now a goal to deploy it in a MOOC early next semester.

Surprises: One surprise that we faced was some of the feedback that we got from our user-testing session. We assumed that people would find our mentee-mentor relationship building interface very intuitive. It turns out that it was not an intuitive way for people to foster the relationship and so we had to redesign the interface to do a better job at it.

Revisions to Milestones: The only change to the milestones is that we are pushing back actually deploying the system into a real MOOC until the Jan 25th milestone. We will continue to work on the new prototype and then build a functioning system to be used in a MOOC.

Resources Needed: N/A