

# OfCourse

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## Software Requirements Specification

Draft 1  
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CSE 403 - CSRocks Inc.

### Revisions

Version	Primary Author(s)	Description of Version	Date Completed
0.1	All	First Draft	04/18/2008

# Overall Description

## Description

OfCourse, a community course evaluation facilitator. Allows users to review or submit feedback on courses, professors, and offerings (a particular course professor combination). The goal of which, is to assist students in choosing their courses and professors. Similar to existing "rate my professor" systems, only allowing a student to rate courses as well as professors and providing detailed metrics. The goal is to facilitate detailed exchange of experience between students and feedback to professors in more detail than currently existing systems.

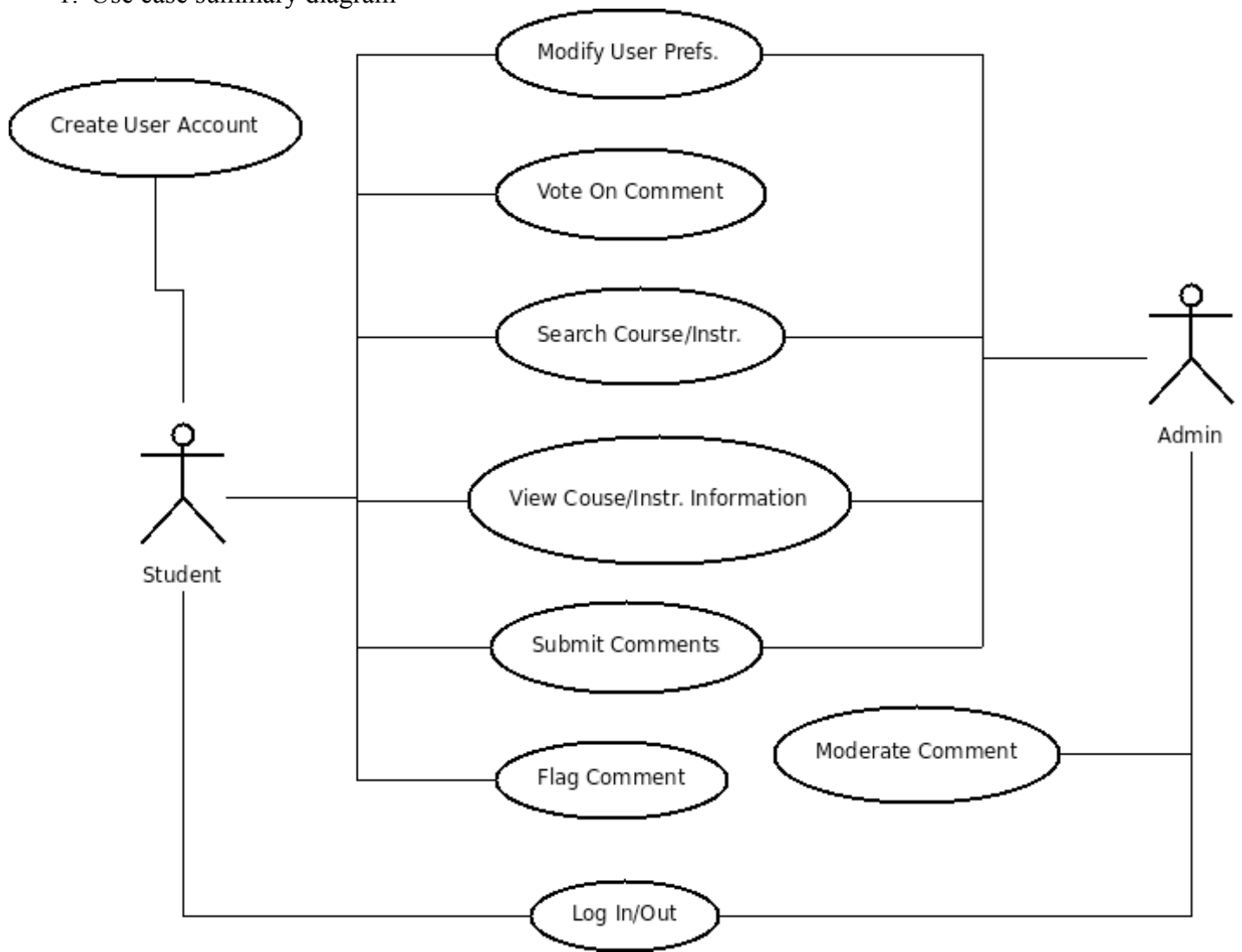
## Scope

The system will provide student feedback on courses to students and professors.

The hardware will be a web server running Apache. The software will be written with Ruby using the Rails framework. Our RDBMS will be MySQL. For the user interface, we will be creating a web page (standard XHTML, CSS, Javascript). We will be using jQuery for our javascript framework.

# Use Cases

## 1. Use case summary diagram



2. Two (2) formal use cases for scenarios that are two of the most important to the product.

Use Case 1

Goal	The site user accesses the site to decide between taking class A or class B, expects to see detailed information submitted by other site users on grading, relevance, teaching style and other course related information.
Level	Summary
Primary Actor	The site user, a student.
Precondition	The primary actor already knows the basic information about the course(s) including the course name and instructor. Primary actor is at the search screen on the website.
Success end condition	The student has decided what class (A or B) to take after viewing and comparing the user-submitted information on class A and class B.
Failure end condition	The primary actor was unable to find relevant information to make a decision on which class to take.
Trigger	Primary actor accesses the web application url.
Main success scenario	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Primary actor searches for information on course A particular to the current instructor, by typing in the course name in the 'course' field and professor name in the 'instructor' field and clicking the search button.</li> <li>2) System responds by displaying a list of matches to the search.</li> <li>3) Primary actor clicks on the desired list item and system responds by displaying the information page for that course-professor offering.</li> <li>4) Primary actor reads through the list of user comments about their experience taking course A from the particular instructor</li> <li>5) Primary actor repeats steps 2 and three with course B.</li> <li>6) Primary actor uses the information to decide which course to take.</li> </ol>
Extensions	<p>2a) The system is unable to find any results for the search. The system displays a page with the message "No results found" with a link "add this course-professor offering." (see user case 2)</p> <p>6a) While taking the selected class, the primary actor finds that the information on the site used to select the class was misleading. The primary actor then decides to return to the site and submit a comment his/her experience taking the class (see user case for comment submission).</p>
Variations	<p>1') The primary actor may browse to the site using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Internet Explorer</li> <li>-Firefox</li> <li>-a browser on a mobile device</li> </ul>

Use Case 2:

Goal	The site user has finished taking a course and wants to express his/her opinion on the course and/or professor.
Level	Summary
Primary Actor	The site user, a student
Precondition	The student knows what class he/she has taken, knows the professor's name.
Success end condition	The primary actor is able to find/create the offering (course and professor combination) and is able to contribute to the information.
Failure end condition	The primary actor was unable to find/add the offering, or, The primary actor was unable to contribute information to the site.
Trigger	The primary actor searches web site for a particular offering and activates one of the user submission controls ('add comment' button, or one of the rank course aspect controls).
Main success scenario	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Primary actor searches for information on a course particular to the current instructor, by typing in the course name in the 'course' field and professor name in the 'instructor' field and clicking the search button.</li> <li>2) System responds by displaying a list of matches to the search.</li> <li>3) Primary actor selects the desired item from the list.</li> <li>4) System responds by displaying the information page for that course-professor offering.</li> <li>5) Primary actor clicks the add button and adds a comment expression his/her opinion of the course and/or professor. System responds by storing the information in the database.</li> <li>6) Primary actor closes page.</li> </ol>
Extensions	2a) The system did not find any matches for the user's search. The system displays a page with the message "No results found" with a link "add this course-professor offering."
Variations	<p>1') The primary actor may attempt to submit comments using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Internet explorer</li> <li>-Firefox</li> <li>-Browser on a mobile device</li> </ul> <p>5') The Primary actor may also attempt to submit comments that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-contain Unicode characters</li> <li>-are irrelevant</li> </ul> <p>5'') The primary actor is unwilling to spend the time necessary to write a text comment so instead the primary actor uses the rank feature to vote (on a scale of 1-5) on the class difficulty, grade policy, study material availability, ability to contact instructor.</p>


# Features

Add new courses to the list	Beta
Add new instructors to the list	Beta
User modifiable course descriptions	Beta
User editable course metrics (easiness, grading, amount learned, relevance, "fun"ness)	Beta
Associate various data with each course - (instructors, when offered, alternatives)	Beta
Add freeform user comments to courses	Beta
Add freeform user comments to instructors	Beta
Associate various data with instructors (easiness, graded fairly, gives out past exams, how responsive to email, etc.)	Beta
Search for courses based on any of the associated information	Beta
Assign weights to metrics and search for courses that match those metrics (advanced search)	Final
Allow users to rate comments left by others as helpful/unhelpful	Final
Allow users to flag comments as inappropriate	Final
Sort comments by user rating when displayed	Final
Automatically remove comments flagged inappropriate based on some algorithm	Final
Users sign up for an account in order to leave comments	Final
Verify user has a washington.edu email address when they sign up for an account	Final
Attach username to all changes made	Final
Allow users to store additional personal info (major, classes taken, classes needed/wanted)	Final
Allow users to view all their own comments in one place	Stretch
Allow (limited) text formatting/html in comments	Stretch
Course wikis	Stretch
Course discussion (about the course <u>material</u> )	Stretch
DARS++ Past courses taken accounted for, would have to allow for manual overrides of requirements, Optional/Conditional course requirements tag, required courses, use long-term scheduler to plan accordingly, Courses needed to major in X, Courses relevant to other majors/minors	Stretch

# UI Prototype

Landing:

OfCourse! Login



Browse Adv. Search

### Updates and News

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### Recent Comments

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Browse:

OfCourse! Logged in as  
2Haught

## Browse

Instructors	English	CSE 142	CSE 143
<b>Departments</b>	History	<b>CSE 143</b>	Computer Programming
Courses	<b>Computer Science</b>	etc...	Description
etc.	etc.		Etc.



View Item:

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1Tyme

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Stats



## CSE 400

# Description

Offerings





Course Comments








Add Comment

Offering Comments

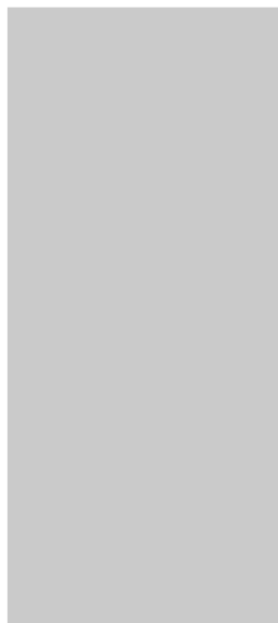






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