

How We Work

In our initial meeting, we developed a framework for working through the stages of this project. For each of the major tasks before us, we designated one team member to assume executive responsibility. The leader in each stage had creative authority and shouldered the responsibility for finalizing and submitting work on time. However, the leader did not work solely on their respective task. Rather, other team members contributed in whatever ways were applicable. From writing sections of copy for our presentation, to providing feedback and collaborating on the design of our website.

Tracking Progress

Mohamed Abdulsamed

Our product was conceived by Mohamed, who proposed the application in an earlier assignment for this class. So, it felt natural for him assume something like a founder's role. Mohamed helped oversee each stage of the project to ensure there was cohesion between everyone's efforts and ensure the project remained in line with his original proposal.

Kimberly Ramgopal

Early in the project Kim began work on our website. She chose to forego using Open Lab in favor of building a site from scratch — which gave us more creative freedom to customize its look and feel. Kim wrote the code and graciously revised it accordingly based on feedback from team members and Professor Richards until we arrived at a finished, professional product.

Elbachir Chohaib

Elbachir led the early stage of the project. He curated contributions from Mohamed, Kim and Connor and edited them into a cohesive, multimedia story/presentation. This involved creating visuals and designing a thoughtful layout for information about our team and product.

Connor Hanwick

Connor managed the final stage of the project. He tracked the team's progress throughout to document this report. Early on, he created a visual and drafted copy for part of our oral presentation.

Conclusion

Our method of assigning a leader at each stage minimized micro-management and communication/coordination issues that can plague collaborative projects. Additionally, it gave team members a degree of creative autonomy and ownership over their respective task — which I believe led to higher quality results. The group shared an easy-going dynamic and managed to work through questions and obstacles with relative ease. The group maintained communication over group text message and email. This is a team that could be successful and productive on future projects in a range of different contexts.