ECS 193AB Winter/Spring2017

Online-to-Offline (O2O) mobile app solutions to register Extracurricular classes

Background:

Extracurricular classes ("EC") are the elective afterschool education programs. Attending EC classes have great educational and social values for a student; however, finding the right one can be a real challenge for the parents. The wanted ECs are always unavailable, hard to enroll, or conflict with the family schedule. Long commuting distance to the class can also be a deal killer. It remains equally challenging for EC teachers to offer classes when they can't find enough interests, and sometimes the right premises.

Description:

A successful EC would need: good teachers, engaged students and parents, and available premises just around the corner. We are developing a community/location-based registration system to facilitate these needs. The system users would include EC teachers, parents (and their children), and premises providers. Functionally, the system is comparable to the one for university course registration. In the system, EC teachers can post when and where the classes will be offered for parents to select from. Parents can also propose the class and seek for teachers, as well as other interested families to join in. Once all stakeholders reach a consensus, the class will start.

Unlike school classes, ECs (such as cheese, cooking, art, etc.) can take place not only in classrooms, but also in private properties, libraries, and all other kinds of premises. Lack of premises always prevents parents to find the EC classes close to where they live, and EC teachers to offer their classes in the area with the most needs. To bridge this gap, we will systematically source premises and their available times as much as possible in the region. These premises may include public and commercial facilities in the community. Homeowners are also invited to rent out spaces in their properties to facilitate the classes. By cooperating with the premises providers, who will also become the user of system, we will have the premises available populated for EC teachers to book or rent.

Challenges:

We will provide the registration solution on both mobile and web platforms. In response to this opportunity, the specific challenge is to design and build a mobile application -–that:

1. Include different users of teachers, students/parents, and premises providers,
2. Populate premises for the teachers to book or rent on the location-based interface.
3. Populate the location-based classes for the students, parents to register.

Platform: iOS or Android (both would be great, would start with iOS)

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