



Remixing the Web

H79.2802

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Due November 6, 2009 (in lecture)

The goal of the project proposal is describe your team's idea and justify why it is worthwhile. You should explain what you want to do, provide a bit of background in your topic area, and argue persuasively that your idea will lead to a good project. The project proposal has two components:

- Prepare a five-minute group **presentation** to give in class on Friday, November 6th. The format of this presentation is up to you. Try to make it enjoyable for your classmates!
- Research and write a **written proposal**, and submit a single copy for your team before giving your presentation. The written proposal should be 1-2 pages in length.

You can structure the presentation and written proposal any way you like, but here are some elements that a good project proposal should probably include:



Project Idea

- **Basic Concept:** What is this website about? This is not a complete specification. It is a concise description of the idea, but with enough detail to make it absolutely clear what is being attempted.
- **Assessment of Need:** Who will visit this website, and how will they find out about it? Why do they need it? What do they use now?



Questions to Ponder

- **Related Work:** What has already been done in this area? What are the strengths and weaknesses of existing approaches? If this is a completely new idea, how does it relate to existing sites, and why hasn't it been done before?
- **Why your project will be better:** What will you do to advance the state of the art? What will be possible with your project that isn't possible now?
- **Assessment of risk:** What are the major risks in the project you are attempting? If you fail, what will be the most likely cause? What can you do to reduce the risk?



Implementation Issues

- **Architecture:** What are the components of the mashup, and how will they fit together?
- **Hardware:** Where will this mashup be hosted? Will you need a custom server or a domain name?
- **Software:** What language are you planning to code in? What APIs, software libraries, and development tools are you planning to use?