

CSCI 4237 Project Proposal

NewsNow

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Project Abstract:

While commuting through bus/rail, I see people are busy reading news, listening songs and surfing on their tablets/smartphones. In tablets, it's easy to have a broad view of the homepage but for the smartphones it becomes difficult to see the entire page. A website page have many contents on the homepage like ads, audio etc. which is of no use to the user. And compared to tablets, mobile bandwidth is very low. Websites provide XML feeds which contains just the news info avoiding the unnecessary ads/media. The purpose of this project is to save the time for the page to load and also the bandwidth so that the page loads at a faster speed and the user can navigate or read any particular news of his choice.

Strategy:

NewsNow will be developed for android platform which will work on any sort of android devices. When the application is launched, the user will be presented with all the available categories of the particular news channel in a list view. Upon selecting on a particular news category, the XML file will be passed and user will be presented with a list of headlines which belongs to that category. When the user selects the intended headline, the application will navigated him to the web view.

Unknowns & Problems:

For this, I will have to parse the XML files which are new for me. Using the Android widgets and developing a project on Android platform without having any prior experience will be a challenge for me.

Implementation Plan:

- Researching on XML feed and selecting the suitable tag required for this project.
- Parsing the XML files based on the selected tags.
- Displaying the parse data using android widgets.
- Handling the click/select operation on screen.
- Displaying the news content on a web view.