Senior Project Proposal

Problem
When using a professional photographer for a special event or just for a family portrait it could be a while before the photographer edits all your photographs and schedules a meeting for you to order prints. Also, in our busy lives it can be inconvenient or difficult to meet with the photographer after a shoot to discuss picking out prints. Wouldn't it be nice to manage everything from your home computer instead of making an appointment and driving to the studio just to pick out your pictures? What if you move and you want to order some prints and are not able to meet with the photographer?

Solution
I want to develop a website that photographers can use to run their business. Focusing on the user interface design, I want this website to be very easy and intuitive to use. This website will give customers the option to do mostly everything from their home computer. Customers will be able to create an account, view their pictures, order pictures, give feedback on pictures, and make appointments for future sessions. By creating this website I believe that we could solve the problems or inconveniences of photography.

Schedule
I will be implementing this project during the Summer and Fall 2009 quarters.

Fall 2009
• Create a prototype of the system
• Perform user evaluations of the system to ensure design quality
• Write Literature review and related work paper
• Complete system design and specification of requirements

Winter 2010
• Implement a database
• Implement customer accounts
• Implement the following features for customer:
  ◦ Viewing of pictures
  ◦ Ordering prints
  ◦ Feedback of pictures
  ◦ Make appointments for future sessions
Meeting Minimum Criterion
This project fulfills the objectives of the Computer Science Senior Project.

Technical Accomplishment
This involves control flow, database management, user interface design, and research all of which reflect the maturity of a senior level student. The project is related to the field of computer science based on the fact that this project will utilize my knowledge and skills that I have acquired through my computer sciences courses at Cal Poly.

Diligent Execution
I will be solely responsible for developing this website on all levels from the prototype, to the user evaluations, to the implementation.

Effective communication
This project will require user evaluation reports, graphs, and reports which will show my skills in effective communication.
User evaluation forms: Gain information from possible customers on the usability of the website.
Graphs: Display results from the analysis of the user evaluations.
Reports: Compile my final results from the project.

Background Research
From my knowledge Cal Poly does not offer any web development courses at least at the time that this document has been created on April 15, 2009. By doing this project it will require me to do research on web development techniques, languages, and structure. I will also have to do research in the human computer interaction of this website to ensure a good user interface.

Creativity
When making software or websites there is never a perfect way to make a user interface. There usually is multiple possibilities that could work, but the solution is usually never obvious. This project will require creativity in order make a user interface that is intuitive to use.