Assignment 4 - Minimum Viable Product

Due: Tuesday, March 14th
6.S194 Spring 2017

In this assignment you will plan a schedule for completing your minimum viable product. Besides the schedule itself, this assignment asks you to explain your reasons for your project management decisions.

1. Brainstorm a list of features. For each feature, provide a brief description of the feature including the user need(s) it addresses, the market(s) it addresses and its impact in each, relevant interview responses, the risks associated with the feature, how excited you are to work on the feature, and an estimate of the time required to implement the feature. (These are the columns from the in-class MVP worksheet; that worksheet is intended as a starting point.) Be specific and detailed!

2. Make a list of the features sorted by priority and grouped into milestones (sets of features complete enough for useful customer feedback). Explain why you prioritized the features as you did, including why you chose to not implement some features, and why the milestones make sense. You must have at least one milestone, but more milestones (quicker iterations) is better, as they give you more chances to react to user feedback.

3. Create a Gantt chart depicting your group’s schedule for implementing features, including any dependencies between features, and the estimated dates of each milestone. Here’s a tutorial on approximating a Gantt chart with Google Sheets; if you have dependencies, you will have to draw the arrows yourself. (Note that the example schedule is for a waterfall-style project, but your tasks should be specific features or work that prepares you for specific features.)

You should complete this assignment as a group and submit to the Google folder shared with your group. A copy of the in-class MVP worksheet has been placed in that folder for your convenience. Add rows to that table as needed.

On the 14th, each group will give a brief (5 minutes or less) presentation about their MVP plan. We will project the Gantt charts. If you want to use one or two slides, you can submit a Google Slides presentation along with this assignment, but slides are not required. Your presentation should include not just what you’ve decided to do, but also your reasons for that decision.