

Abstract

Peernote (www.peernote.me) is a project developed by myself, Bryce Aebi, and Jackson Owens. Peernote is an online educational platform for writing courses. We offer an environment that connects instructors with their students, encompassing every step of the writing process. With Peernote, students can create and edit documents, electronically hand in assignments, and utilize on-the-fly textual analysis as they write their papers. Instructors can issue assignments, enter grades, and use our comprehensive document markup editor to provide feedback. They can also use our analytics functionality to identify class strengths, weaknesses, and plagiarism violations. Our goal is to streamline the education process, eliminating busywork so teachers can maximize the time they spend teaching.

We still have a long way to go until finished, but so far we have initially focused our efforts on building the infrastructure of our application. Towards this end, we have set up user accounts, browser sessions, email capabilities, database backups, user settings, splash and info pages, uploads, a notifications framework, document creation, and Google Analytics. Additionally, we have spent a lot of time putting together our editor, which is one of the core features of our product. We have implemented most editor features one would find in a product such as Google Docs.

In the near future, we plan to launch our student featured beta product, which will consist primarily of our text editor and reviewer. Users will be able to request reviews via email and reviewers will be able to markup essays.