

Project 5

Name: Meal plan selector

Problem Statement: Sophomores, upperclassmen, and transfer students who live on campus may struggle to choose a meal plan that matches their actual eating habits, schedule, budget, and use of campus dining. Unlike many freshmen who are placed on required dining plans, these students may have multiple options but little guidance on which plan provides the best value.

Target User: Sophomores, upperclassmen, and transfer students who live on campus and have multiple meal plan options to choose from.

Pain Points: Sophomores, upperclassmen, and transfer students who live on campus may struggle to choose a meal plan that matches their actual eating habits. They feel like some meal plans offer too little, while others provide more than they realistically need. They need something that can help them get an idea of what meal plan they should get.

Product Vision: This product's goal is to help college students make a more informed dining plan decision based on how they actually eat and use campus dining.

Value Proposition: This product helps students choose a dining plan based on how they actually expect to use campus dining. If a student prefers only dining halls, the product can suggest an unlimited-swipe plan. If they want access to multiple dining options, the product can use their estimated daily spending to calculate their expected dining expenses and compare that amount with the available declining-balance plans.

Acceptance Criteria:

- The product displays the available Virginia Tech dining plan options.
- The user can choose between dining hall only or multiple dining options.
- If the user selects the dining hall only, the product recommends the unlimited dining plan.
- If the user selects multiple dining options, the product asks for their approximate daily spending.
- The product calculates the user's estimated dining spending based on that daily amount.
- The product compares the estimated spending with the available VT dining plans.
- The product outputs a recommended dining plan based on the user's choices and estimated spending.
- The final recommendation page displays the selected plan and estimated semester spending.

MVP: A simple product where college students select their preferred meal plan options and receive a suggestion based on their inputs.

MVP features:

Select Dining Hall vs Multiple food options

Enter Approx Daily spending

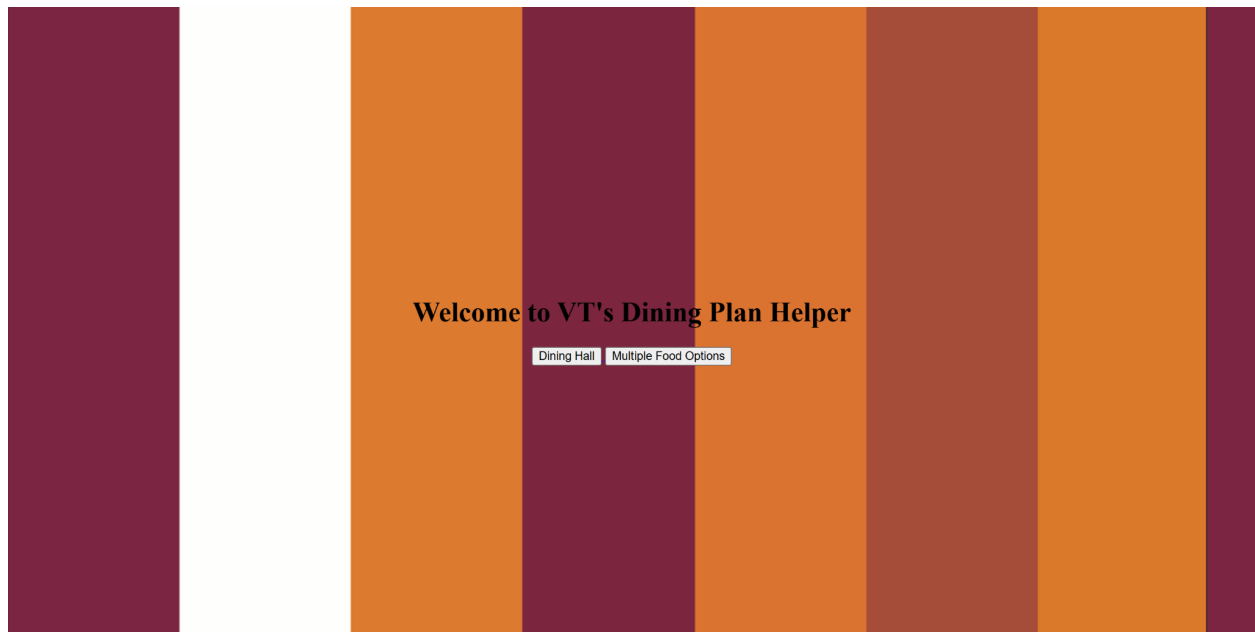
View Available options

User Stories:

- 1) As a student, I want to select a dining plan that fits my needs, so I have enough food for the entire semester.
- 2) As a student, I want to view the available dining plan options, so I can choose the option that best fits my preferences.
- 3) As a student, I want to enter my approximate daily dining spending so I can receive a plan recommendation based on my expected semester usage

Technology:

- 1) Java prototype
- 2) HTML/ CSS
- 3) JavaScript



Dining Hall Plans

Unlimited

The Unlimited plan costs \$3,413 per semester and includes unlimited swipes at all-you-care-to-eat dining centers. It also includes \$225 in Declining Balance Dollars, two meal exchanges per week, and five guest meals per semester.

Unlimited Plus

The Unlimited Plus plan costs \$3,731 per semester and includes unlimited swipes at all-you-care-to-eat dining centers. It also includes \$600 in Declining Balance Dollars, three meal exchanges per week, and five guest meals per semester.

Multiple Food Options

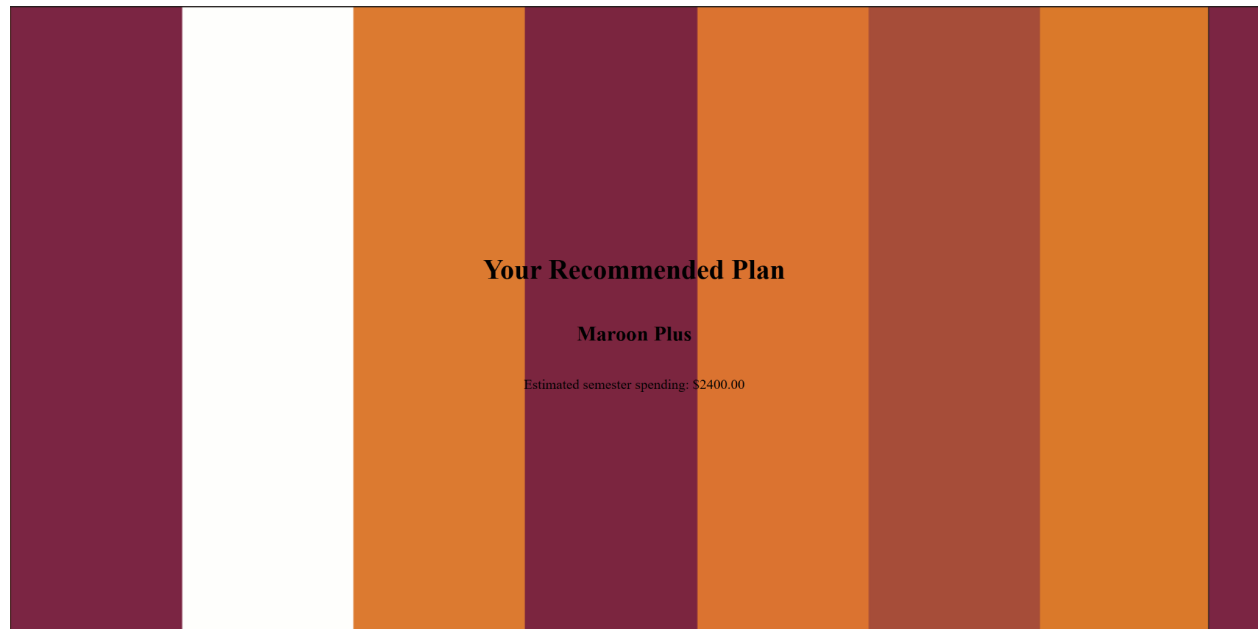
Maroon

The Maroon plan costs \$2,090 per semester and provides \$2,090 in Declining Balance Dollars to spend at participating campus dining locations. It offers flexibility for upper-year students living on or off campus and can be a good fit for students who are frequently away on weekends.

Maroon Plus

The Maroon Plus plan costs \$2,646 per semester and provides \$2,646 in Declining Balance Dollars to spend at participating campus dining locations. It offers the same flexibility for upper-year students living on or off campus while providing a larger dining balance for students who expect to spend more throughout the semester.

Enter Approximate Daily Spending



Initial Testing

I tested the MVP by selecting the dining Hall option and it took me to a new page which shows Unlimited vs Unlimited Plus. Then I selected Multiple Dining options and then added \$20 as daily approx spending which suggested Maroon Plus.