Advising universities course catalog to unravel the next set of classes to take can be a daunting task. Seeking assistance from an advisor may not be much better, as professors are given advisement as a secondary task, they may not be fully equipped, capable, or willing to provide students with the accurate and thoughtful insight to select the proper classes. This problem can lead to students enrolling in incorrect classes, the repercussions of which can extend the duration of study to receive their degree.

### Objectives
- Design an easily accessible advising platform
- Provide students appropriate class recommendations
- Include university advisors to provide feedback on selections
- Basically, do better than the current system

### Solution
A web application that assists students through their degree program and provides appropriate class recommendations. It will also allow advisors to track their students and comment on course selection. Such an application shall be called, AdviseMe.

### Technology
AdviseMe is built on the MEAN stack and uses AWS EC2 instances for the web server.

- **mongoDB**: The NoSQL database is used to store all user and course data in JSON documents.
- **express**: A minimal web application framework for Node.js provides many features for building web applications and APIs.
- **AngularJS**: The front-end web application framework extends HTML and allows for developing flexible applications that can be quickly modified.
- **node.js**: Allows the use of JavaScript for server-side scripting, allowing for the production of scalable and dynamic network applications.
- **AWS EC2**: Provides full-fledged virtual cluster of computers with application software such as web servers and database available at any time.

### Current Status
Currently, AdviseMe can only advise the brightest students at the University of South Carolina, Computer Science majors.

### Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make Appointments</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>View Appointments</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instant Messaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>View Course Catalog</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make Class Recommendations</td>
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<td>Handle Class Requests</td>
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Administrative features: editing users, courses, and permissions, and canceling student requests.

### The Advising Process
AdviseMe assists students through the entire process of selecting and submitting classes to their advisor for approval.

- **Students**: are provided with class recommendations for the following semester. Changes can be made before submitting for approval.
- **Advisors**: can view all pending student requests and complete university course catalog. Advisors can approve a student's requested classes or submit feedback in the event of a problem. Advisors also have access to the complete academic history of their students to include past and current coursework.
- **Students**: can check the status of their request and will receive notification upon receiving advisor feedback.