

Requisite Technological Infrastructure

The Success Tracker application will require hardware to support the operation of the application as well as the aggregation and processing of data that will be invoked and acted upon dynamically (as needed) and will not be housed for longer than the requisite computational duration. Because the data aggregated and monitored by the application may be private and personal, these hardware systems will need to be secured and protected from invasion and access. Feedback data, completely anonymized, will be housed for the duration of the life of the user account and, like email, would be deleted or maintained for as long as the account holder desired.

The application will use current student evaluation metrics (grades), that are monitored and compared against a baseline threshold. As such, the application will rely on access to this data, already collected and housed by the University.

Feedback data will be gathered from and proffered to students from aggregated data sourced from any combination or amount of social media data sources including, but not limited to, Facebook, Myspace, Twitter, Goodreads, WordPress, LastFM, Spotify, Zotero, Foursquare, Google+, and Blogger. The application will benefit from advancements in social media data portability and linked data through developments in SIOC (Semantically Interlinked Online Communities) and FOAF (Friend of a Friend), for example. The availability of data sources will be a factor of the idiosyncrasies of individual users and will not be static or standard. The application will need to be prepared to deal with data from any variety, abundance, or dearth of data.

The application may require its own network as the bandwidth necessary to retrieve and deliver significant amounts of data for a student population of over 10,000 will be significant.

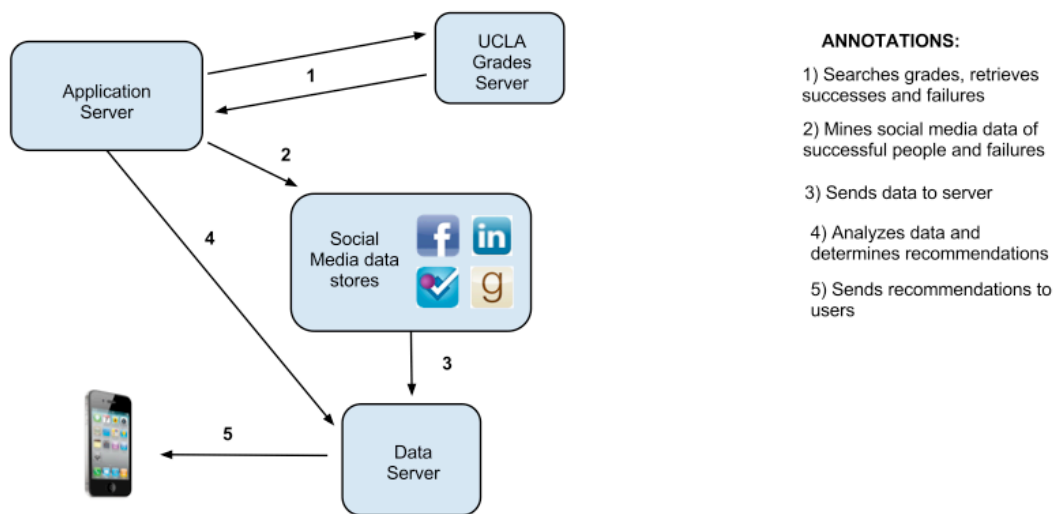


Fig. 1 Rough entity-relationship/process model