Comparing UCWISE and Online Universities

Project Proposal

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What is UCWISE?

- UCWISE is a web-based learning system
- Ongoing education research project
- Currently used to teach lab-based lower-division CS courses (CS3, CS61B)
Higher Education Online

- Examples: University of Phoenix, Regis University
- Systems are developed professionally
- While UCWISE may exemplify education research, these are commercially proven to work
The Approach

- Compare and contrast UCWISE to computer science courses offered by specific online universities
  - Examining user reviews
  - User interface analysis
- Tie-ins with the course
  - Human learning in computer science education
  - Vygotsky and Piaget’s theories on learning
  - Activity theory
Learning Expectations

- Explore principles behind both systems
- Determine strengths and limitations of both UCWISE and online universities
- Discover possible improvements that can be made to UCWISE

- Project success could be assessed by the knowledge obtained from the comparison