



School of Computer Science and Information Technology

Department of Computer Science and Information Technology

Semester: III

Specializing: Data Analysis

23BCA3C01L : Database Management System (DBMS)

Activity 1

Online Certification Courses

Date of Submission: Sep 2024

Submitted By:

Name: Bharath K

USN No: 23BCAR0252

Signature: _____

Faculty In Charge

Dr. Santhalakshmi M



JAIN
DEEMED-TO-BE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF
COMPUTER
SCIENCE AND IT

This is to certify that **Bharath K** has satisfactorily completed activity prescribed by JAIN (Deemed to be University) for the third semester degree course in the year 2024-2025.

Assignment topic Online Certification Courses for Activity-1

Sl. No.	CRITERIA	MARKS	MARKS OBTAINED
1.	On-time submission	10	
2.	Learning Outcomes	15	
3.	Report with course details and assessment	15	
4.	Viva	10	
	Total	50	
	Converted	15	

MARKS	
Max	Obtained
15	

Signature of the student: _____

Signature of the Faculty

INDEX

SL.NO.	Title	Page No.
1.	The Structured Query language (SQL)	4
2.	Table 1: Comprehensive Module Distribution	11
3.	Table 2: Module 1 - Introduction to SQL and Its Origins	13
4.	Table 3: Module 2 - Fundamentals of SQL Queries	15
5.	Table 4: Module 3 - Advanced Data Aggregation Techniques	17
6.	Table 5: Module 4 - SQL JOIN Operations and Table Relationships	19
7.	Table 6: Module 5 - Data Definition and Manipulation Language	21
8.	Table 7: Module 6 - Advanced SQL Functionalities and Practical Applications	23
9.	Certificate	25
10.	Conclusion	26
11.	Reference	27

Chapter 1

The Structured Query Language (SQL)

S. No.	Heading	Value
1.	Course Title	The Structured Query Language (SQL)
2.	Course Duration	26 hours (approximately)
3.	Course start Date	20 Aug 2024
4.	Course End Date	2 Sep 2024
5.	Names of Creators	Alan Paradise
6.	Skills gained	1. SQL query writing 2. Using SQL JOINS 3. Data aggregation techniques 4. Table creation and modification 5. Implementing data constraints
7.	Unique Learning Outcomes	1. Historical context of SQL 2. Relational algebra fundamentals 3. Practical use of subqueries 4. Handling complex data scenarios 5. Real-world SQL application examples

Detailed Description of Course

As part of my academic coursework, I undertook a comprehensive online SQL course designed to provide an in-depth understanding of SQL (Structured Query Language) and its practical applications in managing and querying relational databases. This course was structured into six modules, each focusing on a specific area of SQL, starting from its origins and foundational concepts to advanced techniques and real-world applications. Below, I present a detailed account of each module, outlining the topics covered, the skills acquired, and the unique learning outcomes.

1. Introduction to SQL and Its Origins

The course began with an introductory module that set the stage for understanding SQL's significance and its role in the world of databases. This module was instrumental in providing historical context, explaining how SQL emerged as a powerful language for database management. We delved into the origins of SQL, exploring how it was developed in the early 1970s by IBM and how it has evolved to become the standard language for interacting with relational databases.

One of the key areas covered in this module was relational algebra, the mathematical theory that forms the foundation of SQL. Understanding relational algebra was crucial as it provided a theoretical basis for understanding how SQL queries operate at a fundamental level. The module also introduced the concept of the SQL Standard, highlighting how SQL has been standardized over the years to ensure consistency and compatibility across different database systems.

Videos and Readings: This module included a series of videos totaling 66 minutes, along with two readings. The videos were informative, providing a thorough overview of the course, the instructor's background, and the key concepts to be covered. The readings focused on academic credit opportunities and support resources for the course.

Quizzes and Discussions: Three quizzes helped reinforce the learning, focusing on the evolution of SQL, understanding relational algebra terms, and the basics of SQL query execution. Additionally, two discussion prompts encouraged students to introduce themselves and reflect on the material covered in the module.

Key Learning Outcomes: From this module, I gained a strong foundational understanding of SQL's origins, the theoretical principles of relational algebra, and the development of SQL standards. This knowledge provided a solid framework for the more practical aspects of SQL covered in subsequent modules.

2. Basic SQL Queries Using the SELECT Statement

The second module was dedicated to one of the most fundamental aspects of SQL: the SELECT statement. This module emphasized the importance of retrieving data from databases, a critical function for any database user or administrator. We started by learning how to write simple SELECT statements to extract data from a single table. As the module progressed, we explored various clauses that can be used in conjunction with the SELECT statement to refine and control the output.

The WHERE clause was introduced as a tool for filtering data based on specific conditions. This allowed us to narrow down the results of our queries to only those records that met certain criteria. We also learned about the ORDER BY clause, which enables sorting of query results in ascending or descending order, and the DISTINCT keyword, which helps eliminate duplicate records from the output.

Another critical aspect of this module was handling special data types, particularly dates and NULL values. SQL's approach to managing dates and handling missing or undefined data (represented by NULL) was covered in detail, providing a practical understanding of how to write queries that deal with these common data challenges.

Videos and Readings: This module included five videos totaling 83 minutes, covering topics such as the Coursera lab environment, the basic SELECT clause, the WHERE clause, ORDER BY and DISTINCT, and handling dates and NULLs. Six readings, including lab exercises and their solutions, provided additional practical experience and guidance.

Quizzes and Labs: Five quizzes tested our understanding of the SELECT statement and its various components, with specific quizzes unlocking lab solutions for additional practice. An ungraded lab on the pgAdmin environment provided hands-on experience in writing and executing SQL queries.

Key Learning Outcomes: This module significantly enhanced my ability to write and execute SQL queries using the SELECT statement. I gained a practical understanding of how to filter, sort, and manage data effectively, which is essential for any data analysis task. The hands-on labs provided valuable experience in working with real databases, further solidifying my understanding of these concepts.

3. Advanced Data Aggregation with GROUP Functions

Building on the basics of the SELECT statement, the third module introduced more advanced data aggregation techniques using GROUP functions. Aggregation is a powerful feature of SQL that allows users to summarize and analyze data. In this module, I learned about five essential group functions: COUNT, SUM, AVG, MIN, and MAX. These functions enable users to perform calculations on data sets, such as counting the number of records, calculating sums, finding averages, and identifying minimum or maximum values.

The concept of the GROUP BY clause was central to this module. GROUP BY allows users to group rows that have the same values in specified columns into summary rows. This is particularly useful for generating reports and insights from large datasets. We also explored how to use HAVING, a clause that filters groups after they have been formed by GROUP BY, providing additional control over the results of aggregated queries.

In addition to group functions, the module introduced the concept of subqueries, which are queries nested inside other queries. Subqueries can be used to perform complex data retrieval operations, allowing users to build more sophisticated and dynamic queries.

Videos and Readings: The module featured three videos totaling 48 minutes, focusing on the five group functions, creating totals and subtotals, and the different forms of subqueries. Four readings included lab exercises on using GROUP BY and practicing subqueries, along with solutions for reference.

Quizzes: Six quizzes tested our understanding of using group functions, differentiating types of subqueries, and applying the rules for using these features effectively.

Key Learning Outcomes: This module provided a deep understanding of data aggregation using SQL. I learned how to use group functions to generate meaningful summaries and insights from data. The introduction to subqueries expanded my ability to write complex SQL statements, enhancing my overall SQL proficiency.

4. Joining Tables with SQL JOINS

The fourth module focused on one of the most powerful features of SQL: the ability to join tables. In relational databases, data is often spread across multiple tables, and joining these tables is essential for combining related data. This module covered various types of joins, including INNER JOIN, LEFT OUTER JOIN, RIGHT OUTER JOIN, and FULL OUTER JOIN. Each type of join serves a different purpose and can be used to combine data in specific ways.

The module also covered the concept of a Cartesian product, which occurs when every row from one table is combined with every row from another table, leading to potentially large and unmanageable result sets. We learned how to avoid Cartesian products by using proper join conditions. Additionally, the module discussed scenarios where OUTER JOINS are needed, allowing us to include rows from one table that do not have matching rows in another table.

Videos and Readings: Four videos totaling 45 minutes provided a detailed explanation of join syntax, three-way joins, Cartesian products, and the use of outer joins. Four readings included lab exercises on inner and outer joins, with solutions to reinforce learning.

Quizzes and Discussions: Five quizzes tested our understanding of joins, join conditions, and the potential errors that can arise from incorrect join usage. A discussion prompt encouraged students to reflect on their experiences with joins and share insights.

Key Learning Outcomes: This module taught me how to effectively join tables, a crucial skill for working with relational databases. I learned to write queries that combine data from multiple tables, enabling comprehensive data analysis. Understanding join types and conditions helped me avoid common errors and write more efficient queries.

5. Beyond SELECT: DDL and DML Statements

In addition to querying data, SQL also provides commands for defining and manipulating database structures. This module focused on Data Definition Language (DDL) and Data Manipulation Language (DML) statements, which are essential for managing database schemas and data.

We began by learning about the CREATE statement, which is used to create new database objects, such as tables, views, and indexes. The module covered the importance of specifying appropriate data types for columns to ensure data integrity and optimize storage. We also learned about database constraints, such as primary keys, foreign keys, and unique constraints, which enforce rules on data and maintain the integrity of the database.

The module also introduced the ALTER statement, which allows users to modify existing database objects. This includes adding or dropping columns, changing data types, and modifying constraints. Additionally, we explored DML commands: INSERT for adding new data, UPDATE for modifying existing data, and DELETE for removing data from tables.

Videos and Readings: Four videos totaling 54 minutes covered the CREATE statement, database constraints, using ALTER to modify structures, and performing data manipulation operations. Six readings provided detailed lab exercises on creating tables, modifying structures, and practicing DML commands, with solutions for reference.

Quizzes: Five quizzes tested our understanding of data types, constraints, and the use of DDL and DML commands.

Key Learning Outcomes: This module equipped me with the skills to define and manipulate database structures, an essential aspect of database administration. I learned how to create and modify tables, enforce data integrity, and manage data within the database. These skills are crucial for designing and maintaining robust database systems.

6. Advanced SQL Capabilities and Practical Applications

The final module of the course covered advanced SQL features and their practical applications. One of the key topics was the use of VIEWS, which allow users to create virtual tables representing the result of a SQL query. This concept is particularly useful for simplifying complex queries and enhancing database security by restricting access to specific data.

We also explored the CASE statement, which introduces conditional logic into SQL queries, allowing for more dynamic and customized outputs based on specific conditions. Another significant feature covered was the UNION operator, which combines the result sets of two or more SELECT statements into a single output, making it easier to compile data from multiple sources.

The module also addressed creating unique keys with IDENTITY, ensuring that each record in a table has a unique identifier, which is crucial for maintaining data integrity. The course wrapped up with a comprehensive lab exercise that synthesized all the skills learned throughout the course, providing a practical application of advanced SQL concepts.

Videos and Readings: This module included five videos totaling 37 minutes, covering topics like creating and using VIEWS, implementing the CASE statement, joining answer sets with UNION, and creating unique keys with IDENTITY. Seven readings provided detailed lab exercises, including a final lab that brought together all the concepts covered in the course.

Quizzes and Peer Review: Four quizzes tested our understanding of advanced SQL features, while a peer review assignment allowed us to reflect on our learning and provide feedback on our peers' work.

Key Learning Outcomes: This module equipped me with the skills to apply advanced SQL techniques in practical scenarios. I learned how to create and manage VIEWS, implement conditional logic with CASE statements, combine data with UNION, and ensure data integrity with unique keys. The final lab exercise and peer review provided an opportunity to consolidate my knowledge and apply it to real-world problems, rounding off a comprehensive and enriching learning experience.

Table of Contents

Table 1
Comprehensive Module Distribution

Module	Title	Description	Content	Duration	Learning Objectives
1	Introduction to SQL	Overview of SQL fundamentals	5 videos, 2 readings, 3 quizzes, 2 discussion prompts	121 minutes	Understand SQL basics, relational algebra, and query execution
2	The SELECT Statement	Retrieving data from databases	5 videos, 6 readings, 5 quizzes, 1 discussion prompt, 1 ungraded lab	386 minutes	Master SELECT statement, WHERE clause, and data handling
3	GROUP Functions and Subqueries	Advanced SQL concepts	3 videos, 4 readings, 6 quizzes	240 minutes	Understand GROUP functions, subqueries, and data aggregation
4	JOINS	Combining data from multiple tables	4 videos, 4 readings, 5 quizzes, 1 discussion prompt	227 minutes	Learn JOIN syntax, types, and applications
5	SQL Statements:	Advanced SQL statements	4 videos, 6 readings, 5 quizzes	287 minutes	Understand CREATE, ALTER, and DROP

Module	Title	Description	Content	Duration	Learning Objectives
	Beyond the SELECT				statements, and data modification
6	Advanced SQL Capabilities	Final module covering advanced topics	5 videos, 7 readings, 4 quizzes, 1 peer review, 1 discussion prompt	340 minutes	Master advanced SQL concepts, including VIEWS, CASE statements, and UNION operators

Table 2
Module 1 - Introduction to SQL and Its Origins

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Overview of Course, Intro to Instructor	Video	15 minutes	Course introduction	Understand course objectives and outline
The Origins of SQL	Video	12 minutes	History of SQL	Learn SQL history and evolution
The Relational Algebra	Video	8 minutes	Introduction to relational algebra	Understand relational algebra operations
The SQL Standard	Video	9 minutes	Overview of SQL standards	Learn SQL syntax and data types
What Happens When I Execute a Query?	Video	20 minutes	Query execution process	Understand query processing and results
Earn Academic Credit for your Work!	Reading	10 minutes	Academic credit information	Familiarize yourself with course completion
Course Support	Reading	10 minutes	Course support resources	Understand available resources and materials
Old, but Widely Used	Quiz	5 minutes	SQL basics quiz	Assess knowledge of SQL history and basics
Understanding Relational Algebra Terms	Quiz	5 minutes	Relational algebra quiz	Assess knowledge of relational algebra concepts

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
SQL Query Execution Terms	Quiz	5 minutes	Query execution quiz	Assess knowledge of query processing and SQL syntax
Introduce Yourself!	Discussion Prompt	10 minutes	Introduction discussion	Engage with fellow students and instructor
Module 1	Discussion Prompt	5 minutes	Module 1 discussion	Discuss Module 1 topics and questions

Additional Details

- Total Video Duration: 66 minutes
- Total Reading Duration: 20 minutes
- Total Quiz Duration: 15 minutes
- Total Discussion Prompt Duration: 15 minutes

Table 3
Module 2 - Fundamentals of SQL Queries

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Our Coursera Lab Environment	Video	11 minutes	Lab environment introduction	Familiarize yourself with lab environment
The Basic SELECT Clause	Video	18 minutes	SELECT clause basics	Understand SELECT clause syntax and usage
The WHERE Clause and Conditions	Video	21 minutes	WHERE clause and conditions	Learn WHERE clause syntax and conditions
The ORDER BY and DISTINCT	Video	11 minutes	ORDER BY and DISTINCT clauses	Understand ORDER BY and DISTINCT clauses
How Does SQL Handle DATES and NULLS	Video	20 minutes	Handling dates and nulls	Learn date and null handling in SQL
Lab 1: Coding Your First SELECT Statements	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 1 instructions	Practice SELECT statement syntax
Lab 1: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 1 solutions	Review SELECT statement solutions
Lab 2: Adding Conditions Using the WHERE Clause	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 2 instructions	Practice WHERE clause syntax
Lab 2: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 2 solutions	Review WHERE clause solutions

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Adjusting Your Output	Quiz	10 minutes	Output adjustment quiz	Assess knowledge of output formatting
Unlock Lab 1 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 1 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 1 solutions
Unlock Lab 2 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 2 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 2 solutions
The Basic SELECT Statement	Quiz	20 minutes	SELECT statement quiz	Assess knowledge of SELECT statement syntax
Module 2	Discussion Prompt	5 minutes	Module 2 discussion	Discuss Module 2 topics and questions
pgAdmin Lab Environment	Ungraded Lab	60 minutes	pgAdmin lab environment	Practice SQL in pgAdmin environment

Additional Details

- Total Video Duration: 83 minutes
- Total Reading Duration: 210 minutes
- Total Quiz Duration: 33 minutes
- Total Discussion Prompt Duration: 5 minutes
- Total Ungraded Lab Duration: 60 minutes

Table 4
Module 3 - Advanced Data Aggregation Techniques

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
The Five GROUP Functions	Video	16 minutes	GROUP functions introduction	Understand GROUP functions and usage
Creating Totals and Subtotals	Video	14 minutes	Creating totals and subtotals	Learn aggregate functions and grouping
SubQueries - Three Different Forms	Video	17 minutes	Subqueries introduction	Understand subquery syntax and usage
Lab 4: Using the GROUP BY	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 4 instructions	Practice GROUP BY clause syntax
Lab 4: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 4 solutions	Review GROUP BY clause solutions
Lab 5: Practice Using Subqueries	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 5 instructions	Practice subquery syntax
Lab 5: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 5 solutions	Review subquery solutions
Using the Group Functions	Quiz	10 minutes	GROUP functions quiz	Assess knowledge of GROUP functions
Understanding the RULES	Quiz	10 minutes	Subquery rules quiz	Assess knowledge of subquery rules
Differentiating Types of Subqueries	Quiz	10 minutes	Subquery types quiz	Assess knowledge of subquery types

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Unlock Lab 4 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 4 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 4 solutions
Unlock Lab 5 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 5 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 5 solutions
Group Functions and SubQueries	Quiz	20 minutes	GROUP functions and subqueries quiz	Assess knowledge of GROUP functions and subqueries

Additional Details

- Total Video Duration: 48 minutes
- Total Reading Duration: 140 minutes
- Total Quiz Duration: 52 minutes

Table 5
Module 4 - SQL JOIN Operations and Table Relationships

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
JOIN Syntax	Video	13 minutes	JOIN syntax introduction	Understand JOIN syntax and usage
Three-Way JOIN	Video	5 minutes	Three-way JOIN introduction	Learn three-way JOIN syntax
The Cartesian Product - an Easy Error	Video	12 minutes	Cartesian product explanation	Understand Cartesian product and its implications
When an OUTER JOIN is Needed	Video	13 minutes	OUTER JOIN introduction	Learn OUTER JOIN syntax and usage
Lab 6: Inner JOINS	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 6 instructions	Practice INNER JOIN syntax
Lab 6: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 6 solutions	Review INNER JOIN solutions
Lab 7: Outer JOINS	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 7 instructions	Practice OUTER JOIN syntax
Lab 7: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 7 solutions	Review OUTER JOIN solutions
Understanding JOINS	Quiz	10 minutes	JOINS quiz	Assess knowledge of JOIN syntax and usage

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
JOIN Conditions	Quiz	10 minutes	JOIN conditions quiz	Assess knowledge of JOIN conditions
Unlock Lab 6 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 6 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 6 solutions
Unlock Lab 7 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 7 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 7 solutions
Joins	Quiz	20 minutes	JOINS quiz	Assess knowledge of JOINS and their usage
Module 4	Discussion Prompt	5 minutes	Module 4 discussion	Discuss Module 4 topics and questions

Additional Details

- Total Video Duration: 45 minutes
- Total Reading Duration: 140 minutes
- Total Quiz Duration: 42 minutes
- Total Discussion Prompt Duration: 5 minutes

Table 6
Module 5 - Data Definition and Manipulation Language

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
CREATE Statement - Data Types	Video	13 minutes	CREATE statement introduction	Understand CREATE statement syntax and data types
Database Constraints	Video	20 minutes	Database constraints explanation	Learn database constraints and their usage
Making Changes with the ALTER	Video	9 minutes	ALTER statement introduction	Understand ALTER statement syntax and usage
Adding, Changing, Deleting Data	Video	11 minutes	Data modification explanation	Learn data modification techniques
Lab 8: Creating Tables	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 8 instructions	Practice CREATE statement syntax
Lab 8: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 8 solutions	Review CREATE statement solutions
Lab 9: Modifying Tables and Columns with ALTER	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 9 instructions	Practice ALTER statement syntax
Lab 9: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 9 solutions	Review ALTER statement solutions
Lab 10: Practicing DML	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 10 instructions	Practice data modification techniques

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Lab 10: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 10 solutions	Review data modification solutions
Understanding Data Types	Quiz	10 minutes	Data types quiz	Assess knowledge of data types and usage
Unlock Lab 8 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 8 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 8 solutions
Unlock Lab 9 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 9 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 9 solutions
Unlock Lab 10 Solutions	Quiz	1 minute	Lab 10 solutions unlock	Unlock Lab 10 solutions
DDL and DML	Quiz	20 minutes	DDL and DML quiz	Assess knowledge of DDL and DML statements

Additional Details

- Total Video Duration: 54 minutes
- Total Reading Duration: 210 minutes
- Total Quiz Duration: 23 minutes

Table 7**Module 6 - Advanced SQL Functionalities and Practical Applications**

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Creating and Using VIEWS	Video	7 minutes	VIEWS introduction	Understand VIEWS syntax and usage
The CASE Statement	Video	6 minutes	CASE statement introduction	Learn CASE statement syntax and usage
Joining Answer Sets with the UNION	Video	5 minutes	UNION introduction	Understand UNION syntax and usage
Creating Unique Keys with IDENTITY	Video	12 minutes	IDENTITY introduction	Learn IDENTITY syntax and usage
Wrap-Up	Video	5 minutes	Course wrap-up	Review key concepts and takeaways
Lab 11: Using a VIEW	Reading	60 minutes	Lab 11 instructions	Practice VIEWS syntax
Lab 11: Solutions	Reading	10 minutes	Lab 11 solutions	Review VIEWS solutions
Final Lab	Reading	90 minutes	Final lab instructions	Practice comprehensive SQL skills
Final Lab: Solutions	Reading	30 minutes	Final lab solutions	Review comprehensive SQL solutions

Content	Type	Duration	Description	Learning Objectives
Final Comprehensive SQL Reflection	Peer Review	20 minutes	Final reflection assignment	Reflect on SQL skills and knowledge
Module 6	Discussion Prompt	5 minutes	Module 6 discussion	Discuss Module 6 topics and questions

Additional Details

- Total Video Duration: 37 minutes
- Total Reading Duration: 270 minutes
- Total Quiz Duration: 13 minutes
- Total Peer Review Duration: 20 minutes
- Total Discussion Prompt Duration: 5 minutes

CERTIFICATE



Sep 2, 2024

Bharath k

has successfully completed

The Structured Query Language (SQL)

an online non-credit course authorized by University of Colorado Boulder and offered through Coursera

Alan Paradise
Teaching Professor
Computer Science

COURSE
CERTIFICATE



Verify at:
<https://coursera.org/verify/IDCQ7D77SI0H>

Coursera has confirmed the identity of this individual and their participation in the course.

Conclusion

As I reflect on my journey through this SQL course, I'm amazed at how much I've learned in such a short time. When I first started, the concept of relational databases seemed daunting, and writing SQL queries felt like deciphering a foreign language. Now, after completing all six modules, I feel a sense of accomplishment and confidence in my ability to work with databases.

The course structure, progressing from basic SELECT statements to advanced concepts like subqueries and JOINS, helped me build my skills gradually. I found the hands-on labs particularly valuable – there's nothing quite like the satisfaction of writing a complex query and seeing it return exactly the data you want!

I struggled initially with the concept of JOINS, especially understanding the differences between INNER and OUTER JOINS. However, the practical examples and clear explanations in Module 4 helped me overcome this hurdle. Now, I can confidently join multiple tables to extract meaningful insights from complex data structures.

One of the most eye-opening aspects of the course was learning about database design and management in Module 5. Creating tables, defining constraints, and understanding the importance of data integrity has given me a new appreciation for the work that goes into designing efficient databases.

The final module on advanced SQL capabilities tied everything together beautifully. Learning about VIEWS and the CASE statement opened up new possibilities for how I can work with and present data. I'm particularly excited to apply these concepts in my upcoming college projects.

This course has not only taught me SQL but has also changed how I think about data. I now find myself looking at everyday information – from online shopping catalogs to my university's course listings – and mentally organizing them into tables and relationships.

Looking ahead, I'm eager to apply my new SQL skills in real-world scenarios. I plan to start by optimizing the database for my department's student club, which I believe will significantly improve our event planning and member management processes. I'm also considering exploring more advanced database concepts, possibly delving into NoSQL databases to broaden my skill set further.

Overall, this course has been an invaluable stepping stone in my journey towards becoming a proficient data analyst. It's amazing to think that just a few weeks ago, I was intimidated by the thought of writing a simple SELECT statement, and now I'm confidently designing database schemas and writing complex queries. I'm excited to see where these new skills will take me in my academic and future professional career..

Reference

1. **Course:** <https://www.coursera.org/learn/the-structured-query-language-sql>
2. **Certificate:** <https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/verify/1DCQ7D77SI0H>