**Documenting My Approach**

**1. Assumptions & Key Decisions**

When I first went through the problem statement, I made a few assumptions to keep the project focused and achievable within the given time. I assumed the system should mainly handle event management basics creating events, registering students, marking attendance, and collecting feedback. Features like login or advanced security felt out of scope for this prototype, so I decided to skip them for now.

For the backend, I wanted something lightweight and modular, so I went with FastAPI instead of a heavier framework. For the frontend, I chose React with Tailwind CSS, since I could move fast while still keeping the design neat and modern. I also kept my database schema simple but scalable with six tables (Colleges, Students, Events, Registrations, Attendance, Feedback). This setup felt intuitive and left room for future expansion.

**2. Use of AI Tools**

I did use AI tools like ChatGPT and Claude along the way, but more like a study buddy than a crutch. They helped me brainstorm ideas, explore different approaches, and clarify doubts when I was stuck. For example, I checked with AI on how to structure my README so it looked professional, and I also experimented with AI-generated ER diagrams before sketching and finalizing my own version.

AI also helped me weigh options (like Django vs. FastAPI) by laying out pros and cons. But the final call was mine I chose FastAPI because it matched the lightweight prototype I envisioned.

**3. Following vs. Deviating from AI Suggestions**

I didn’t just follow everything AI said blindly.

* **Where I followed:**  
  I liked the idea of adding a Known Issues / Limitations section in my README. I also used AI’s format for setting up backend/frontend instructions because it was clear and easy to follow.
* **Where I deviated:**  
  Some database relationships AI suggested felt too complex, so I simplified them to keep the schema student-friendly and easy to understand. I also rewrote explanations and documentation in my own words so the final output reflected my voice, not AI’s. For the UI, I trusted my instincts on layout and flow, since I knew what would feel more natural for a student-facing app.

**4. Reflections**

This assignment pushed me to think like a problem-solver, not just a coder. Using AI gave me different perspectives, but I made sure my decisions were my own — from database design to framework choices. I really enjoyed building something practical that ties together backend, frontend, and database concepts. More importantly, I learned how to balance guidance from tools with my own reasoning, which gave me confidence in my approach.

Overall, this project reflects my genuine effort, curiosity, and motivation to learn. It wasn’t just about “getting it done” — it was about understanding the problem, experimenting with solutions, and building something meaningful within the given scope.

**5. AI conversation Screenshots**







