

Test.php technical documentation

Introduction: The intention of this document is to provide details and clarifications as to the purpose and details of the test.php script utilized in the ATAR calculator solution.

General Overview: The test.php script retrieves data from the database and returns it as an HTML table, based on some set of provided parameters.

Important variables:

Variable	Description
Atar	The score provided to the script. Is used in the retrieval of data from the database.
Offset	Used in determining what 'page' of data to return to the user.
Sort	Defines by what field the returned courses should be sorted (e.g. course name z-a).
Dir	Defines the direction that the field defined in sort should be.
Limit_by	Defines the field by which to apply refinement using a provided keyword.
Keyword	The keyword to use in the refinement of data. Applied to the field specified in limit_by.

Function Overview:

Function	Description
setRefinementStr	Sets the refinement string. Arguments provided are added to the sql query such that the returned data is limited to the field specified in the variable 'limit_by' by the string specified in 'keyword'.
setDirStr	Sets the direction by which to present data and the column to apply it to.
setSQL	Sets the sql query string based on the information set in the above two methods.

Description of Operation:

- Executes setRefinementStr method.
 - Applies refinement arguments by way of generating a string to be appended to the SQL query.
- Executes setDirStr method.
 - Applies direction arguments by way of generating a string to be appended to the SQL query.
- Executes setSQL method.
 - Generates the sql query string to be used in the transaction, appends the result of setRefinementStr method and setDirStr method.
- Executes sql query on database.
- Echoes back the results of the query to the caller.