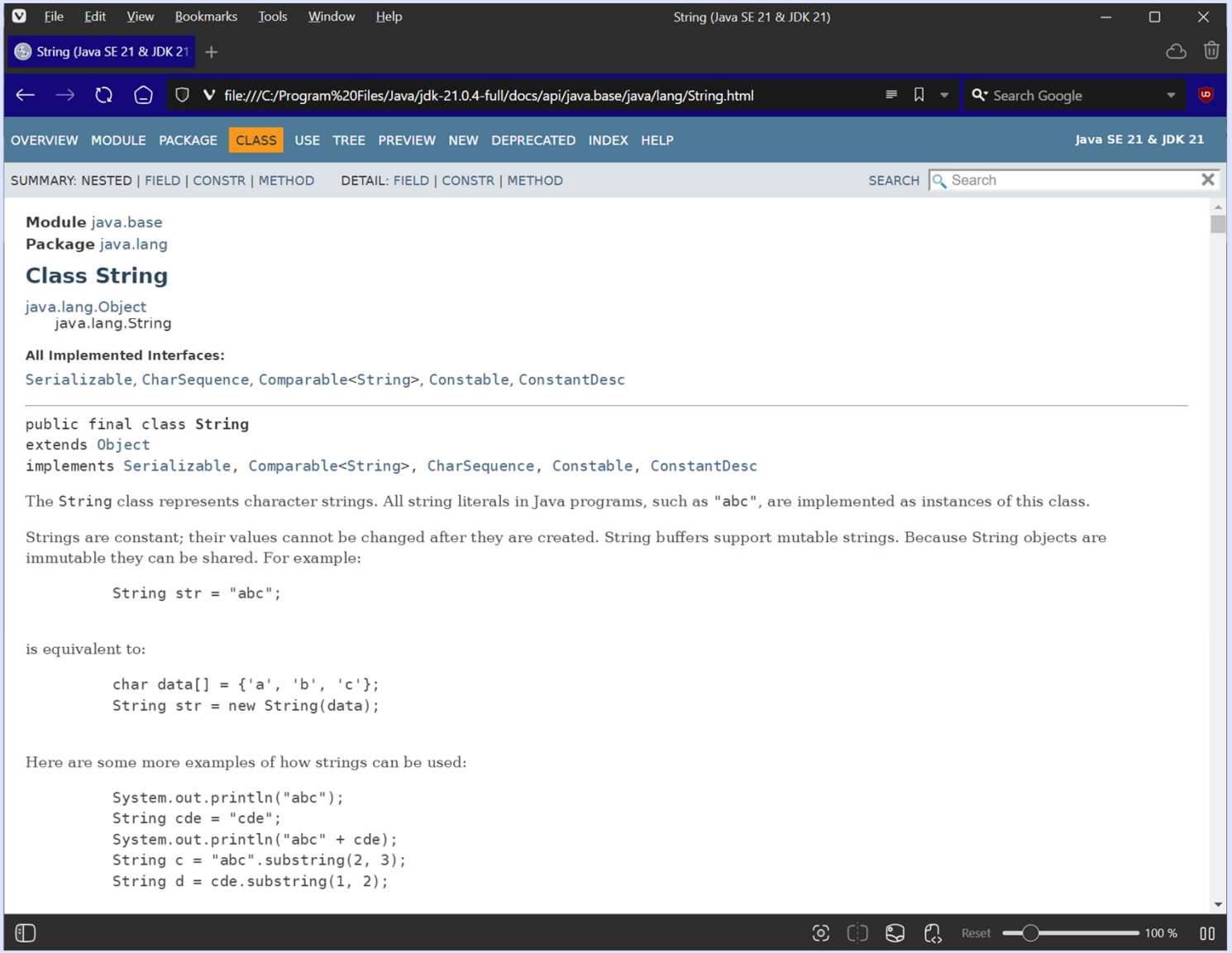
Javadocs

Javadocs

- Java comes with full documentation of all API classes in html format
  - If you followed the installation guide you can find the documentation in a folder named docs inside the folder where you installed Java
    - Either browse the documentation manually (open index.html inside the api folder) or access the documentation from within IntelliJ
- We can document our own classes in the same format as the API classes

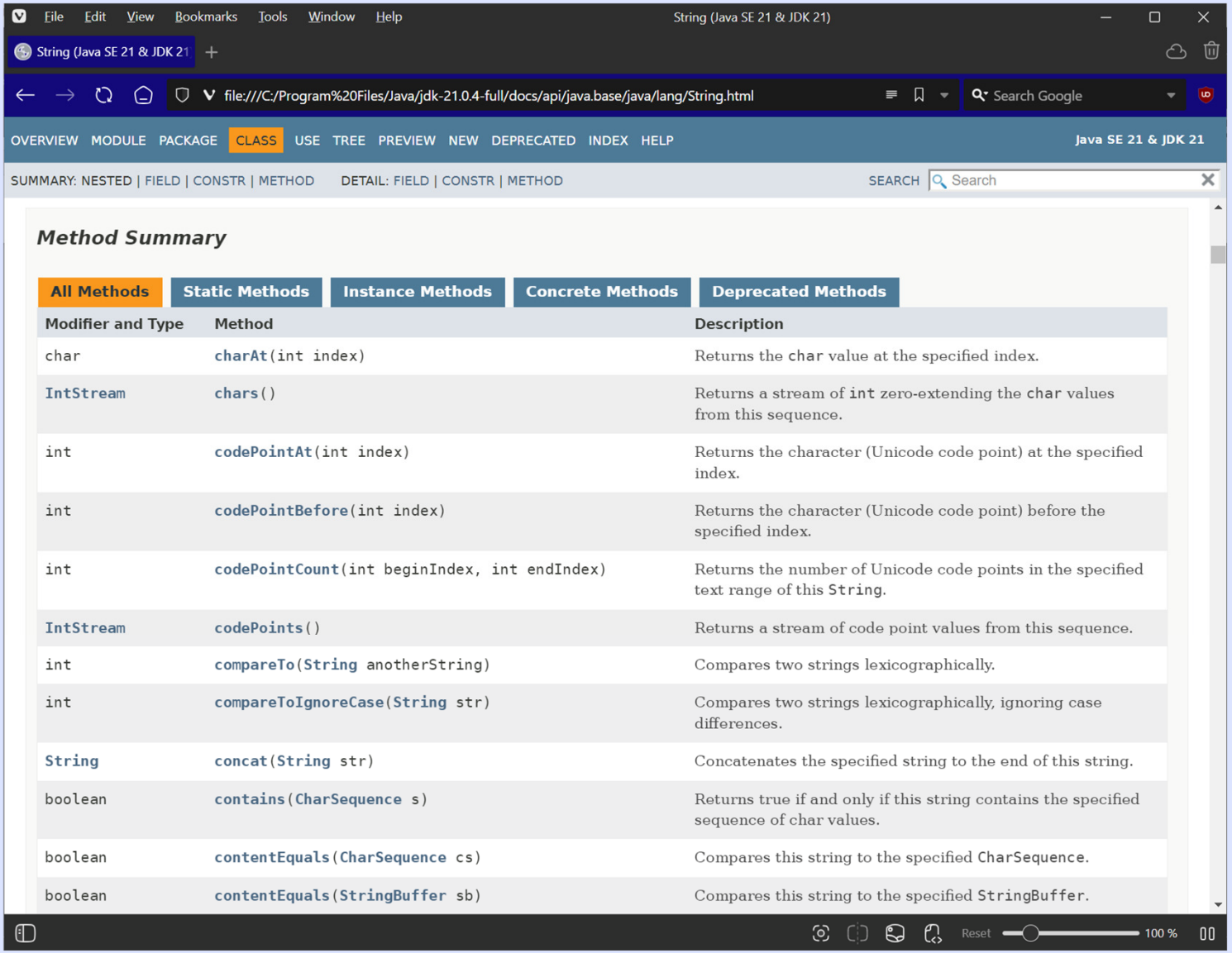
Javadoc for class String

Scroll down for info about fields, constructors and methods in the String class



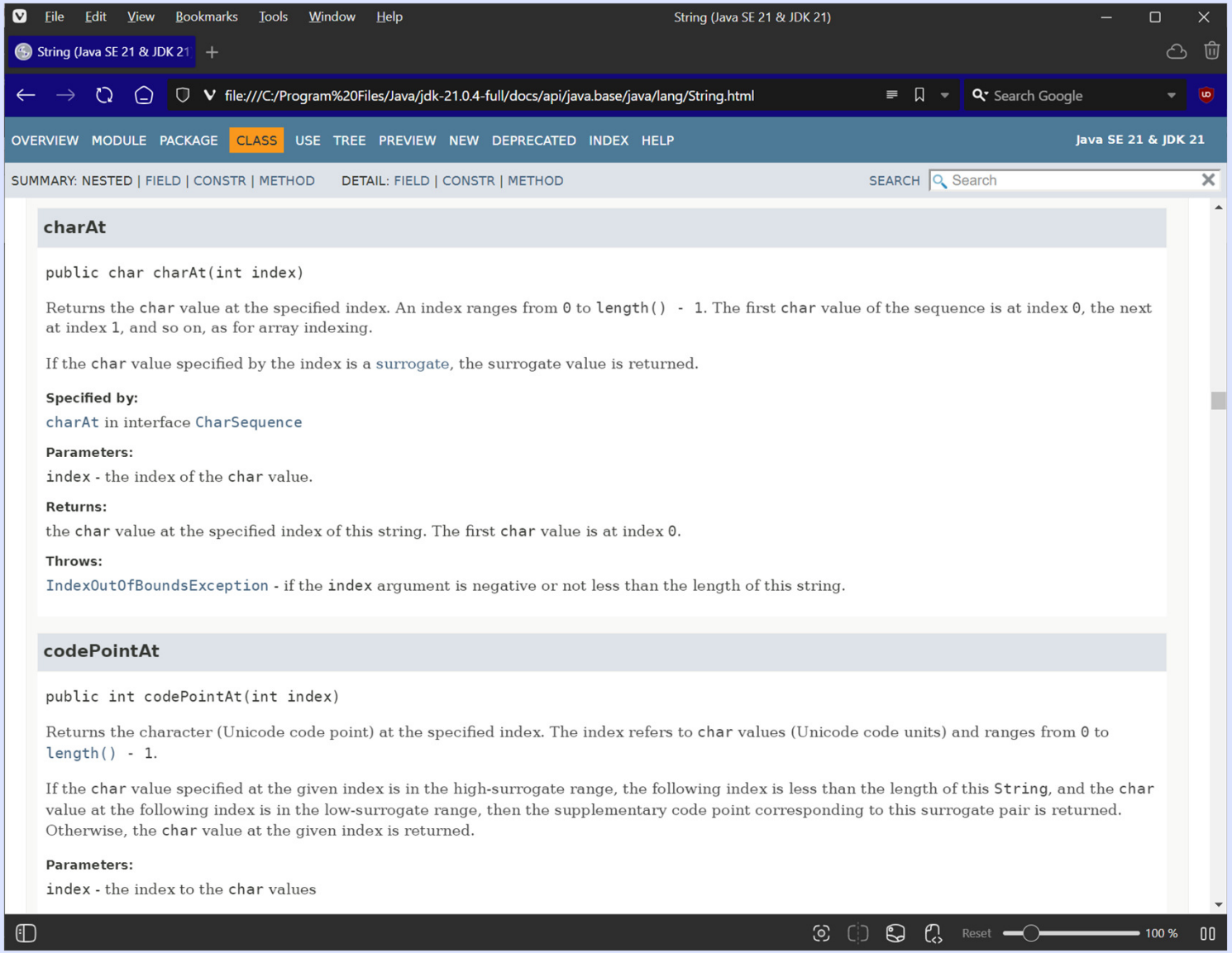
Javadoc for class String

Just click on a method name for more details



Javadoc for class String

A detailed description of the `charAt` method



Documenting code with Javadocs

- When we install the Java SDK, we also get a Javadoc tool that can generate Javadocs for our own classes
  - All we need to do is add some special comments in our source code
- Professional looking documentation
- Other people can understand what our classes do without looking through all the source code
- A requirement as documentation of your SEP1 Java classes
  - At least for your model classes

Documenting code with Javadocs

- For each of our classes we should write:
  - A comment describing the overall purpose and characteristics of the class
  - The name(s) of the author(s)
  - A version number
  - Documentation for every constructor and public method
    - Usually, Java docs are only generated for public methods, however it's still a good idea to write comments for the private methods in case someone looks at the source code

Documenting code with Javadocs

- The documentation for the constructors and methods should include:
  - A description of the purpose and function of the method
  - A description of each parameter (if there are any)
  - A description of the return value (if there is one)
  - A list of the checked exceptions that the method can throw (if any)

Writing Javadocs

- Javadoc comments are written directly in the source code using a special block comment syntax
  - Javadoc blocks start with `/**` and ends with `*/`
  - Inside the blocks we use special tags, including:

`@author`	The name of the programmer
`@version`	The version of the class
`@param`	Description of parameters for a method
`@return`	Description of what is returned from a method
`@throws`	Description of the exceptions thrown by the method

Javadocs example (1/3)

```
import java.util.ArrayList;

/**
* A class containing a list of Student objects.
* @author Allan Henriksen
* @version 1.0
*/
public class StudentList
{
  private ArrayList<Student> students;

  /**
   * No-argument constructor initializing the StudentList.
   */
  public StudentList()
  {
       students = new ArrayList<Student>();
  }
```

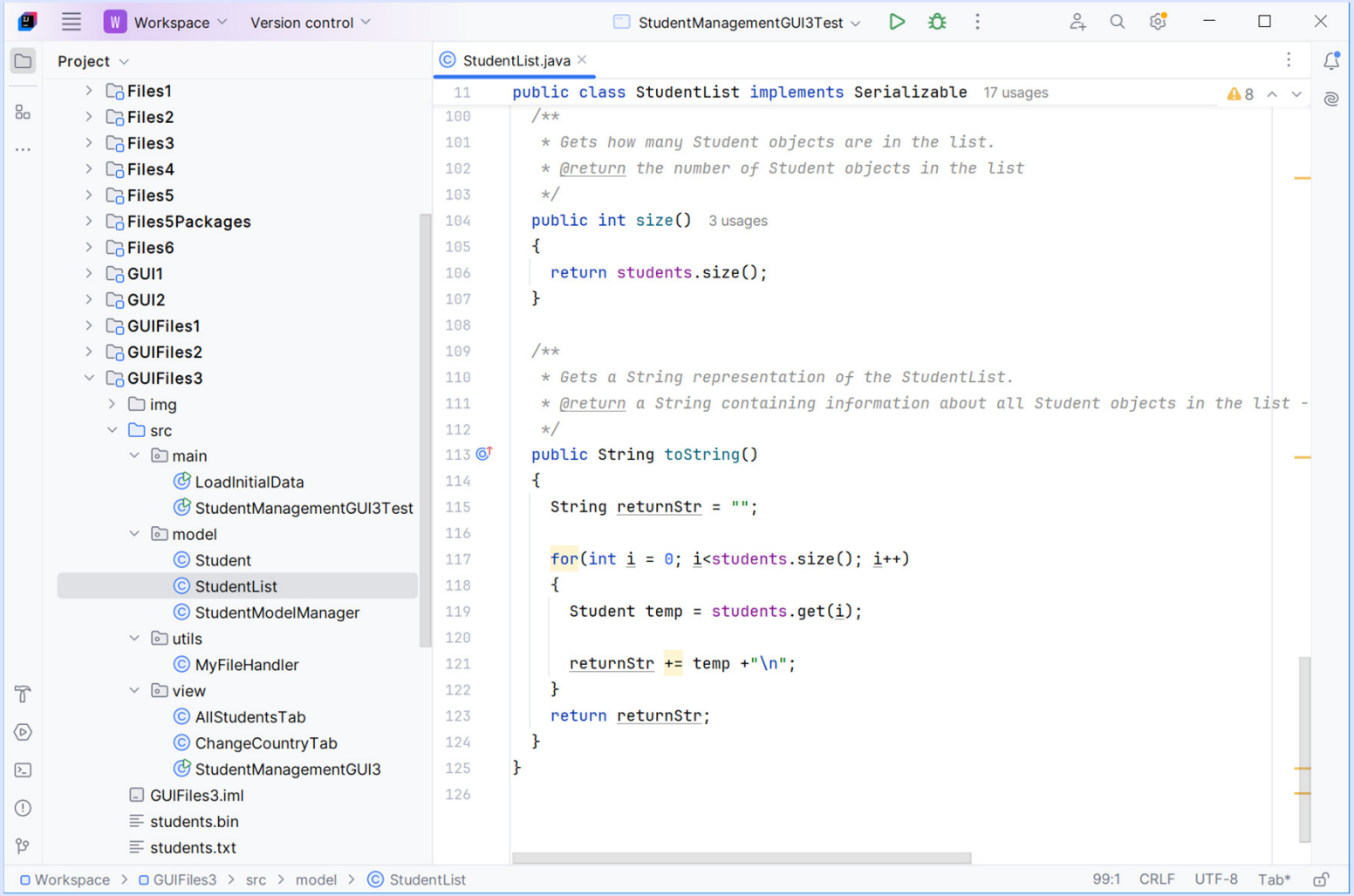
Javadocs example (2/3)

```
/**
 * Adds a Student to the list.
 * @param student the student to add to the list
 */
 public void add(Student student)
 {
    students.add(student);
 }

/**
 * Replaces the Student object at index with student.
 * @param student the student to replace with
 * @param index the position in the list that will be replaced
 */
 public void set(Student student, int index)
 {
      students.set(index, student);
 }
```

Javadocs example (3/3)

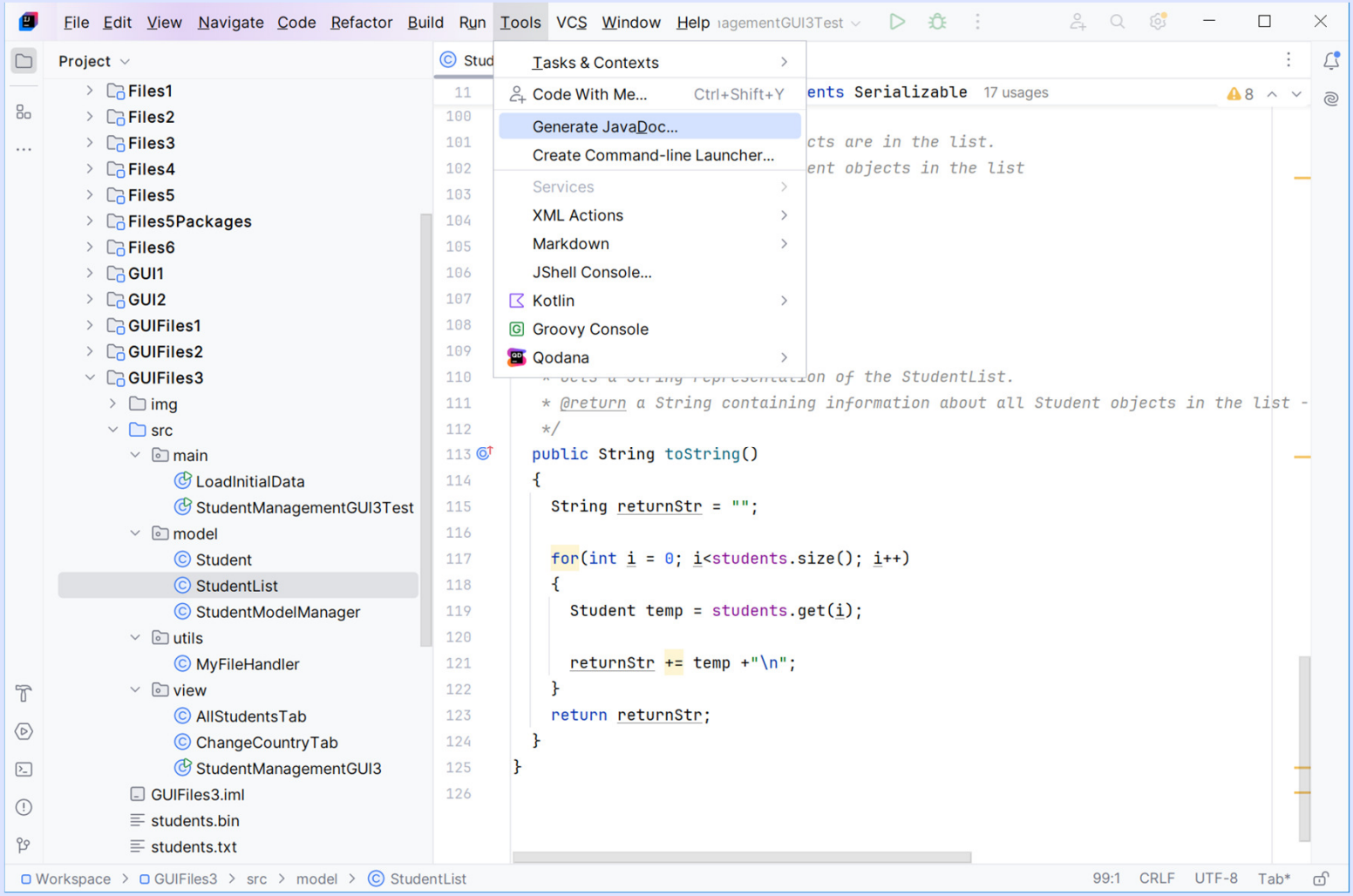
```
/**
 * Gets a Student object from position index from the list.
 * @param index the position in the list of the Student object
 * @return the Student at index if one exists, else null
 */
 public Student get(int index)
 {
    if(index<students.size())
    {
        return students.get(index);
     }
     else
     {
        return null;
     }
  }

  //rest of class
```

Java code with Javadocs



Generating Javadocs

When you are done writing the Javadoc comments, choose “Generate JavaDoc...” from the “Tools” menu in IntelliJ

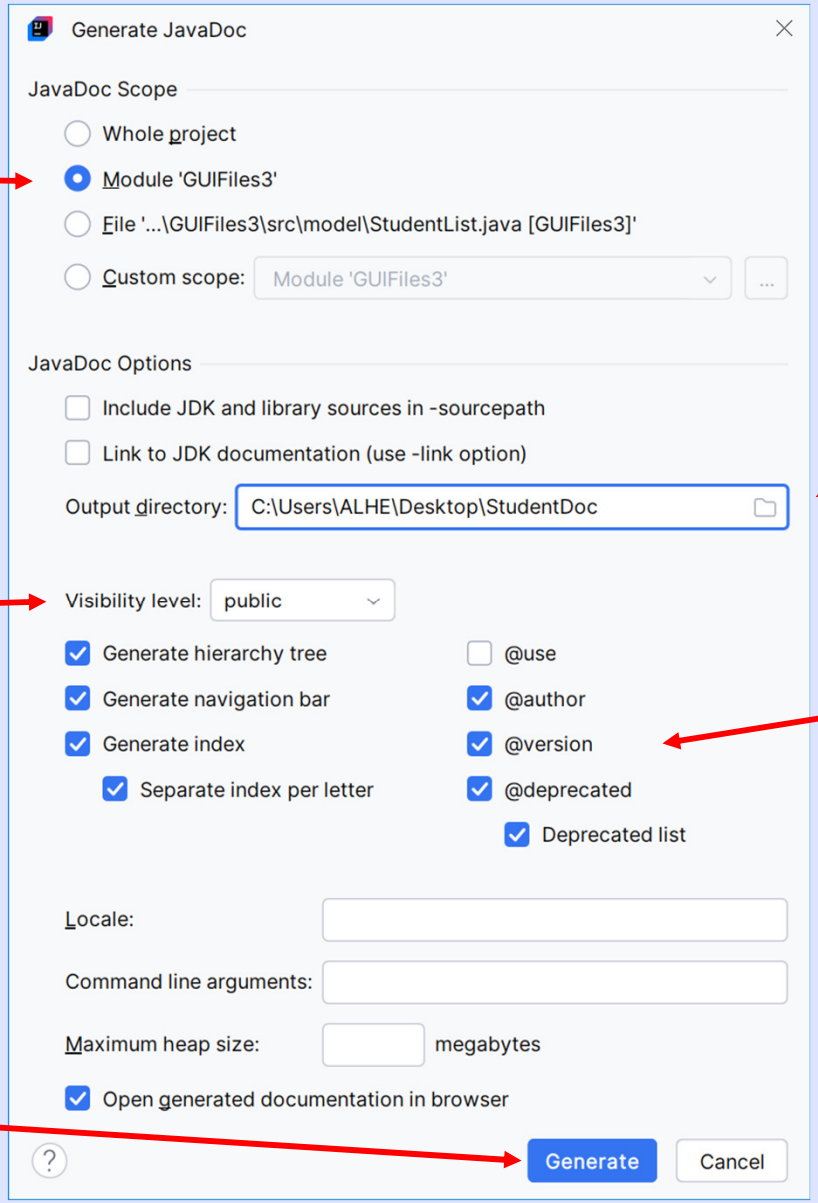


Generating Javadocs

Choose what to generate JavaDoc for. You'll probably want it for the current module

Choose which access modifier levels to include in the JavaDoc. Usually it's done only for public

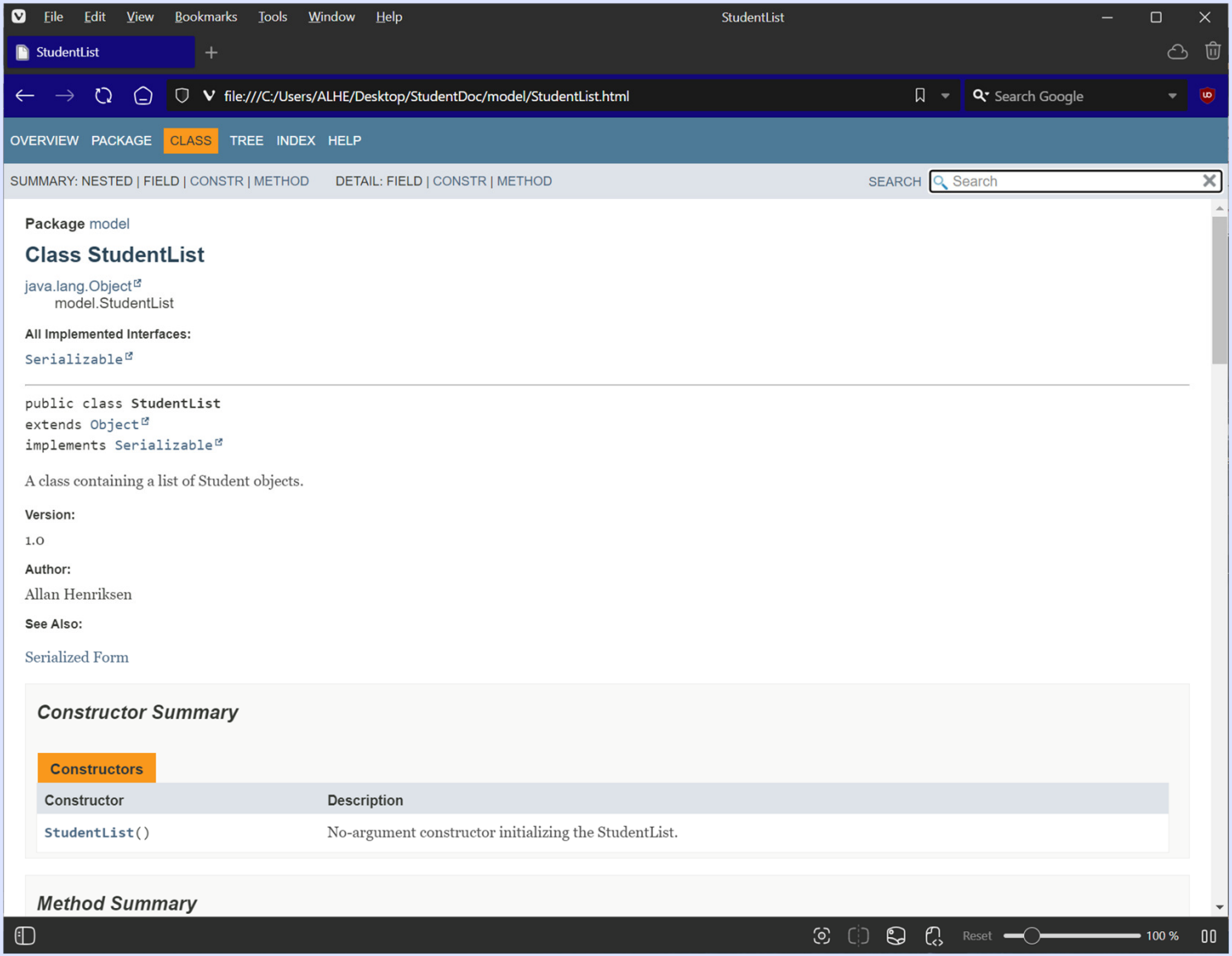
Click "OK" to generate the JavaDocs



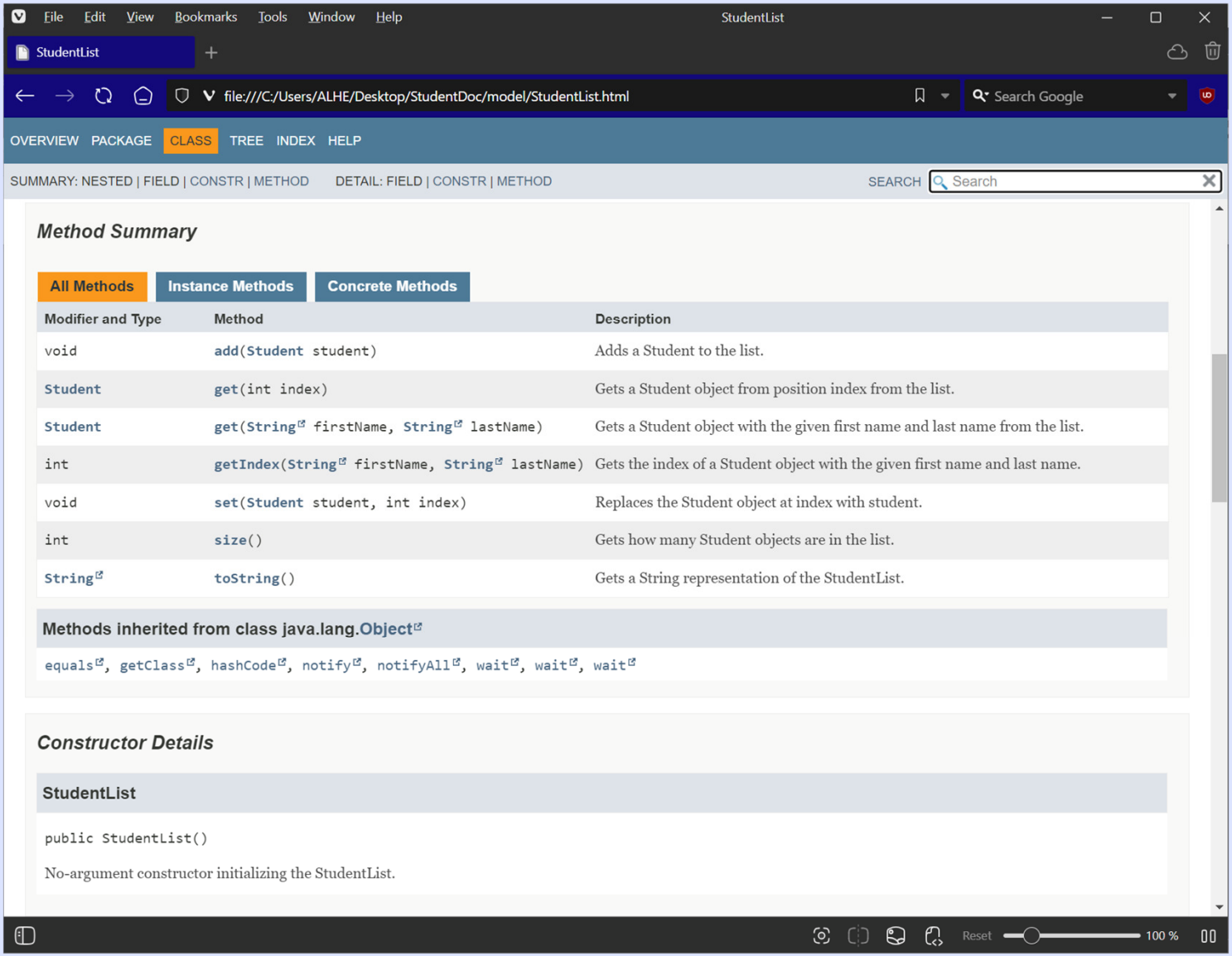
Choose the folder where the generated files will be stored

Choose which tags to include in the JavaDoc

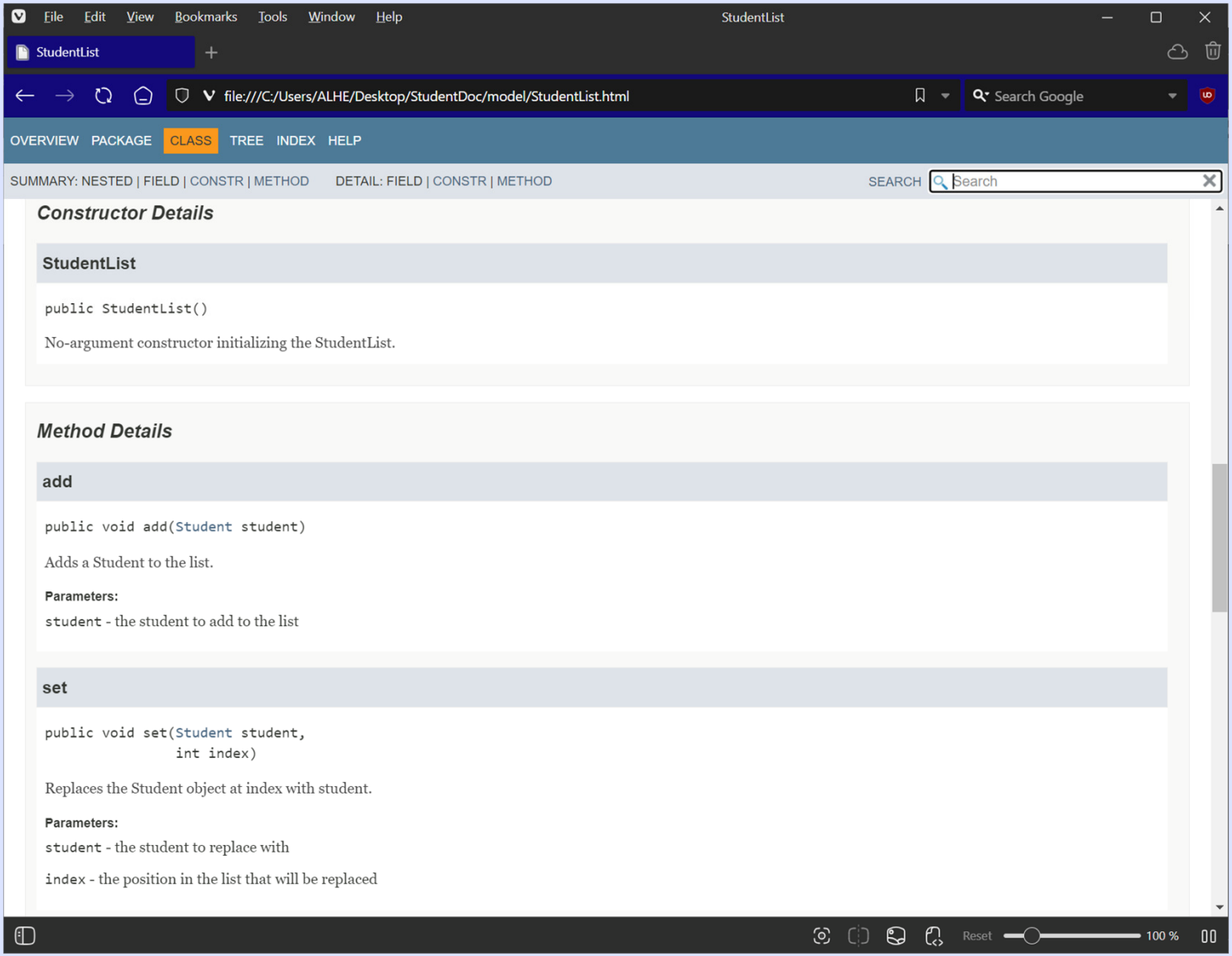
The generated Javadocs



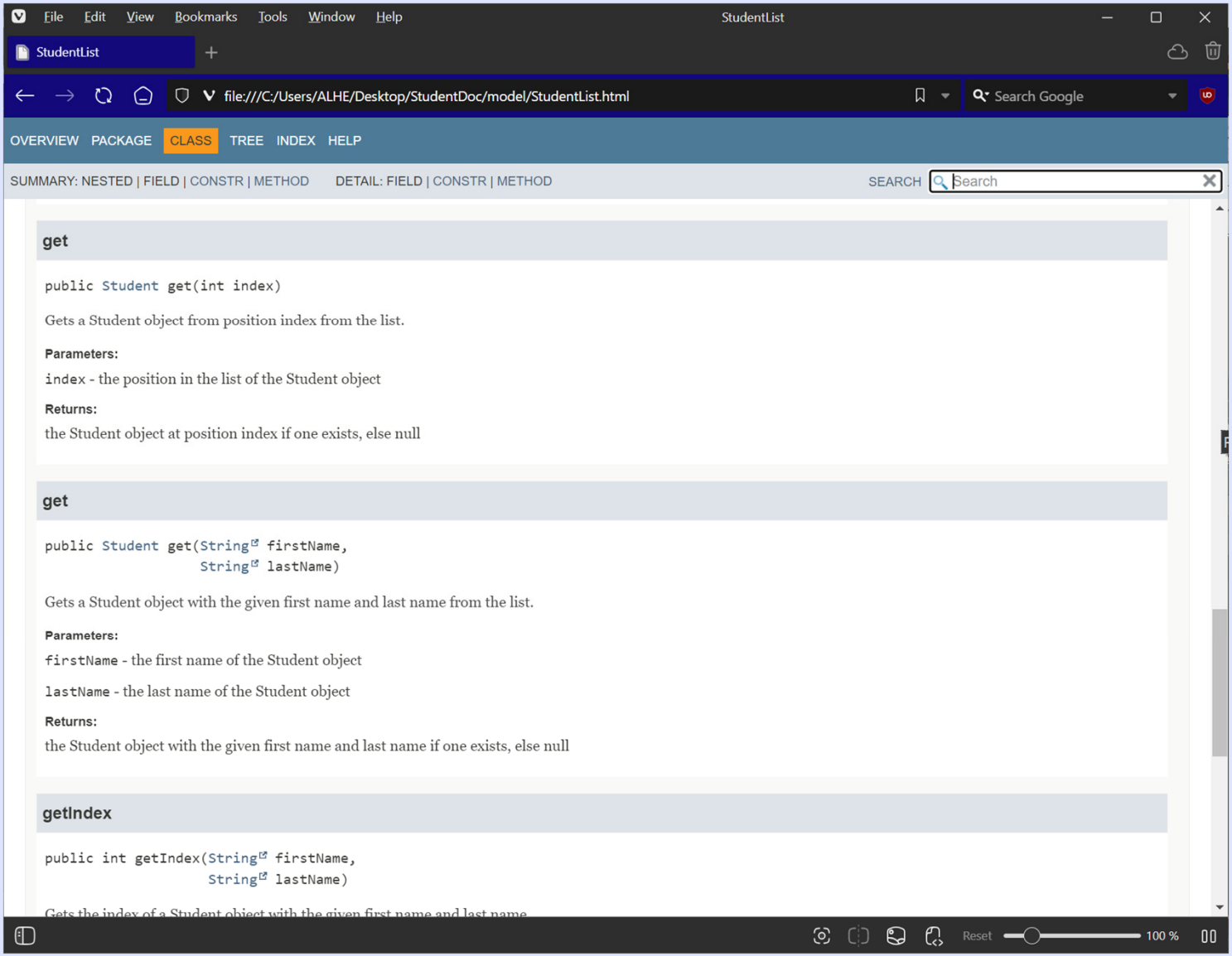
The generated Javadocs



The generated Javadocs



The generated Javadocs



The generated Javadocs