

Web Application Development – Lab 4: JSP + MYSQL - CRUD OPERATIONS

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1. Executive Summary

The initiative focused on deploying a JSP-based Student Management System leveraging Apache Tomcat/TomEE as the execution environment and MySQL as the persistence layer. Core deliverables included end-to-end CRUD functionality, JDBC integration, server-side validation, error handling, and successful deployment using NetBeans. The outcome met baseline functional requirements with a stable runtime footprint and consistent transactional behaviors.

2. Project Scope

The scope covered:

- Establishing a functional MySQL schema for student records.
- Implementing JSP pages for Create, Read, Update, and Delete workflows.
- Enabling JDBC connectivity using MySQL Connector/J.
- Deploying the application to Tomcat/TomEE through NetBeans.
- Validating operational performance across all CRUD paths.

3. System Architecture

The solution followed a classic three-tier structure:

Presentation Layer

- JSP pages:
list_students.jsp, add_student.jsp, process_add.jsp,
edit_student.jsp, process_edit.jsp, delete_student.jsp

Application Logic

- JSP-embedded JDBC routines
- PreparedStatement-driven SQL execution
- Form validation (client-side and server-side)

Data Layer

- MySQL database: student_management
- Table: students (id, student_code, full_name, email, major, created_at)

4. Implementation Overview

4.1 List Functionality (SELECT)

- Retrieval executed via `SELECT * FROM students ORDER BY id DESC`.
- `ResultSet` iterated to populate dynamic HTML tables.
- NULL-safe handling implemented for optional attributes.
- Action links routed to edit and delete endpoints.

4.2 Create Functionality (INSERT)

- Data entry handled through `add_student.jsp`.
- POST submission routed to `process_add.jsp`.
- Validations enforced for mandatory attributes.
- SQL executed through `PreparedStatement` to mitigate injection vectors.

4.3 Update Functionality (UPDATE)

- Existing student details pre-fetched and pre-populated in `edit_student.jsp`.
- Readonly constraints applied to immutable fields (`student_code`).
- Update executed through parameterized SQL with `WHERE` clause targeting `id`.

4.4 Delete Functionality (DELETE)

- Deletion logic implemented in `delete_student.jsp`.
- Server returns contextual messages based on affected rows.
- Foreign key constraint scenarios handled and redirected with structured errors.

5. Database Schema Design

Table: students

Column	Type	Attributes
id	INT	PK, Auto-Increment
student_code	VARCHAR	Unique, Not Null
full_name	VARCHAR	Not Null
email	VARCHAR	Nullable
major	VARCHAR	Nullable
created_at	TIMESTAMP	Default CURRENT_TIMESTAMP

Schema supports straightforward extensions and maintains atomic consistency across CRUD operations.

6. Deployment Process

- Environment: NetBeans 12 + Apache Tomcat/TomEE
- Workflow:
 1. Clean and Build
 2. Deploy
 3. Validate context path mapping (/StudentManagement)
- Addressed deployment constraints involving Windows service permissions and temporary directory access.

7. Testing and Validation

Executed functional validation across:

- Form submission flows
- Input validation (client/server side)
- Database consistency checks
- Error redirection and messaging
- CRUD lifecycle integrity

Outcomes confirmed that the solution operates within expected parameters.

8. Issues Encountered and Resolutions

Issue: Deployment failure due to restricted Windows service permissions.

Resolution: Adjusted TomEE/Tomcat account privileges or executed under LocalSystem.

Issue: JDBC driver not found.

Resolution: Added MySQL Connector/J manually into project libraries.

Issue: SQL errors during CRUD workflow.

Resolution: Standardized PreparedStatement usage and validated schema alignment.

9. Conclusion

The Student Management System was successfully developed, integrated, and deployed. The final solution delivers reliable end-user functionality, aligns with JDBC best practices, and demonstrates operational compliance with core CRUD requirements. The system is stable, extensible, and suitable for academic demonstration and practical application.