# Software Design Specifications

# CodeClassy

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Supervisor	Dr. Muhammad Rafi.
Co Supervisor	NA
Project Team	Saif UI Islam - 18K 0307 Muhammad Hassan Zahid - 18K 0208 Tashik Moin Sheikh - 18K 0142
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# **Distribution List**

Name	Role
Dr. Muhammad Rafi	Supervisor
NA	Co Supervisor

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<u>Muhammad Rafi</u>	Supervisor	R∧Fi	Dec 07, 2021

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Author(s)	Saif UI Islam, Muhammad Hassan Zahid, Tashik Moin Sheikh
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# **Definition of Terms, Acronyms and Abbreviations**

Term	Description
ASP	Active Server Pages
DD	Design Specification

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### 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose of Document

The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive overview of the design decisions made within the software project, and showcase the depth in details in terms of data, architecture, interface, procedure related design. It is developed to provide a relationship between the functional requirements and the structure, implementation, data association and modeling, and the overall architecture of this software application. It aims to do this by providing different viewpoints of the system as per the representation in need in discussion to an audience.

This document is written keeping in mind the target audience of primarily the FYP team, the jury, faculty at FAST. By following technical and industrial standards, we wish to make this document available to any and all software developers that would be interested in learning more about the software project. Thus, it is our aim to write this document in such a presentational format that gives way to,

- 1. Clarity over the depths of the technical details of the project (intrigue)
- 2. Gives rise to questions that would allow us to refine this document (retain feedback)

It is complex to answer the exact questions regarding our "design methodology" - while our approach so far with the project requirements, design decisions and requirement gathering has been based around Agile, our work has been split into concrete modules because of the 30%-70% requirement of FYP I, FYP II respectively, which seem to align with a Spiral Design Model instead.

How are we doing Agile? A good contrast is by aligning with the Agile Manifesto,

- Individuals and interactions over processes and tools our team communication is intensive, almost everyday, with discussions about approaches/problems/flaws/fixes, next steps and so on. We have not rendered ourselves rigid to follow a very "strict" process or on the basis of a tool, instead letting tools help us achieve our goals
- 2. **Working software** over comprehensive documentation Our focus has been on development and incremental delivery with iterations on modules. We wish to have a working, in-order, demonstrable software over documentation that just says what we're going to do (except this documentation, of-course).
- 3. **Customer collaboration** over contract negotiation we take in and value additions, idea improvements, and discussions with our supervisor, instead of noting down strict "contracts" that do not detail what is left to be desired.
- 4. **Responding To Change** over following a plan we make adjustments in the requirements as per request where it is needed

#### 1.2 Intended Audience

As mentioned above, the target audience of interest are,

- 1. The FYP team itself
- 2. The Jury
- 3. Our Supervisor
- 4. Any and all potential faculty at FAST (once submitted, it will be visible to all)
- 5. Software Developers and Solution Architects (review and analysis)

#### 1.3 Document Convention

The font is "Arial" with font size "10".

### 1.4 Project Overview

This software project aims to integrate many virtual educational needs into one place. As compared to current platforms which provide a niche solution to a niche problem in evaluating software needs and its development, CodeClassy attempts to bring together multiple features together to reduce complexity levels, high intense communication needs, and remove redundancy in information sharing, alerts, events, updates, and so on.

On the high level, the project attempts to (for now) bring together 3 main components together as integration pieces, which are,

- 1. Classroom Management System
- 2. Quiz Management System
- 3. Coding Assignments (Remote Code Execution + Real Time Collaboration)

These are the main high level components of the system that define the functional requirements for the requirement process. All together, these components encapsulate entities logic for Teachers, Students, Sections, Classrooms (and more).

As stated before in "Purpose Of Document", we would like to use the Agile approach for building the software

### 1.5 Scope

Documentation is not in scope of the project. We do not intend to write code or functionalities that serve as "User Documentation" - that is, helping users navigate the application. Since there is the idea of an MVP, we wish to develop more and more features and functionalities to fulfill our committed requirements, rather than spending too much time on writing "comprehensive" documentation which is not the aim of an FYP anyways.

The system will not integrate multiple login options, only working with a main email/password schema.

### 2 Design Considerations

The system should be in all cases reliable, robust, adaptive, and flexible for development and use purposes. For this intent, we spent a considerable amount of time trying to work towards a better design flow and structure for the project, in order to solve major problems that existed with the design of the system on a finer-grained level.

The issues related to design were,

- 1. What is the architecture we would like to develop our front-end and back-end on? What frameworks/libraries we believe align with the workflow we have and how would we like to break the project down into smaller components
- 2. How would we go about solving the remote code execution problem and what tools would we use to enable real-time collaboration? It is a niche and difficult problem to solve what approaches could we use to counter these problems?
- 3. What would we use to build rapid UI, and how would we manage user states and sessions on the frontend?
- 4. How would we deal with authentication?
- 5. How would we talk to the database?

A few other affecting considerations can be about,

- 1. **Compatibility** since it is a web application, we care about compatibility on different browsers enough so that it does not break for our users
- 2. **Extensibility** the project is designed as such for ease in adding of new modules with capabilities or further functionalities without having to touch or modify contents of other modules
- 3. **Modularity** modules are designed to be well-defined, independent components which would lead to better maintainability. Dependencies are clearly defined where needed and are well-intentioned and well-contained.
- **4.** Fault-tolerance the application is not yet planned to be beyond local development environments, so this consideration does not really apply
- 5. **Maintainability** the codebase is broken down into modules, so bugs if any are module-contained, easy to trace and detect.
- 6. **Reliability** because we are working on the local environment, it is easy to check for reliability for the software to do as it is expected within stated conditions for a specified period of time.
- 7. **Reusability** we are using already developed software and packages where we believe we can use the functionality that they provide us, reducing our time to develop from scratch.
- 8. **Robustness** that the software operates under stress of users and inputs or tolerate unpredictable or invalid input
- 9. Security the software is able to withstand and resist hostile acts and influences
- 10. **Usability** the interface is designed to be simple and easy to use without the need to involve user documentation manuals
- 11. **Performance** the software will be usable across a number of platforms of mobile, desktop, and laptops
- 12. **Portability** since it is a web application, the software is perfectly portable
- 13. Scalability the software adapts well to increasing data or added features or number of users

In such a case, our starting points were to,

1. Finalize and decide on the main requirements of the project that we were going to work on through requirements analysis and engineering

- 2. Determine the scope of both the functionalities we were going to develop and the implementation details of how we were going to accomplish them define scope limitations and scope creep
- 3. Define what tasks need to be done till when and how, and perform task allocation
- 4. Revaluate work as needed

This approach will allow us to address design solutions according to our workflow and Agile Design, that would help in developing a code base that is maintainable, adaptable, modular, and extensible for further development.

### 2.1 Assumptions and Dependencies

As per concern with the team's idea of system and software design, we imagine design to be concerned with data modeling, entities, abstractions, architectural patterns, and strategies (design models being a strategy to achieve those goals). Our sense of assumptions encapsulates notions about the project's timeline, deliverables, and the workflow that we assume will be in place, in order to help the project run but can't be guaranteed.

It is a want to have those assumptions to never be proven wrong, otherwise there will be a direct impact on the project.

And so, what were our **assumptions** starting FYP I? They were as the following,

- 1. We would be able to finish all the of the requirement engineering and analysis before Mid I (FYP defense) in order to not stumble into unforeseen territory and have a team consensus on what must be done and what should be left for now, as per a team timeline
- 2. We would be able to finish our **Classroom Management Module** completely, all of the backend/front-end as well as the integration with the user flow before Mid 2
- 3. We would be able to finish all of the Quiz Management System prior to the finals completely, all of the back-end/front-end, as well as the integration with the user flow before the finals.
- 4. We will not have any changes and will be fixated on a set of requirements at the start of the semester
- 5. We would be able to manage personal time to handle this large project as per our expectations we realize realistically and responsibly that this project is of large scope and it's importance is gigantic, and that missing deadlines would keep spiraling into other deadlines
- 6. We assumed course workload as well as personal workload in our personal lives would be very light due to this being our final year we were very wrong about that

For each of the above assumptions, many were altered,

- 1. A change occurred after the FYP defense where we were asked to add classrooms separately from sections, with the concept of teacher coordinators and students as assistants
- 2. While most of our work related to the **Classroom Management Module** was completed before Mid 2 in terms of back-end/front-end, we couldn't work on integration and have been working on it since
- 3. We are currently in the process of discussing our strategy for gathering all requirements for the Quiz Management System so we can start work on it in terms of design, implementation, interface, data modeling, and such. As such, our timeline has "extended".
- 4. A bit of uncertainty with data modeling led us to exploring Remote Code Execution, Real Time Collaboration solutions, and we were generally unwilling to start implementation until our defense was approved. We were scared of "what if this does not get approved?", or "what if we have to make changes at the core of requirements?". While these fears were not of fruition, it led the

- team to realize document related deadlines/timelines and how much they can affect a project's progress
- 5. We were unable to sync ourselves after Mid I properly, leading to each member working individually and unable to contribute as effectively as possible. We might have miscalculated the time and effort the physical presence in University along with responsibilities at home along with personal time for mental health, sleep, time allocation for other work and assignments will take. Had we been working full time on this project, there surely would have been more progress
- 6. As said before, we were wrong about that, and life being unexpected, has turned our initial expectations of ourselves over the project into frustration at some points of the project's development

For dependencies, we were blocked by a few factors we were waiting on/for to pass,

- 1. FYP Defense there was no reason why we couldn't start work prior to the defense, and if we had the opportunity of getting our project approved prior to the fixed date, we might have taken that option
- 2. Data modeling had to be altered at different times to cater to requirements

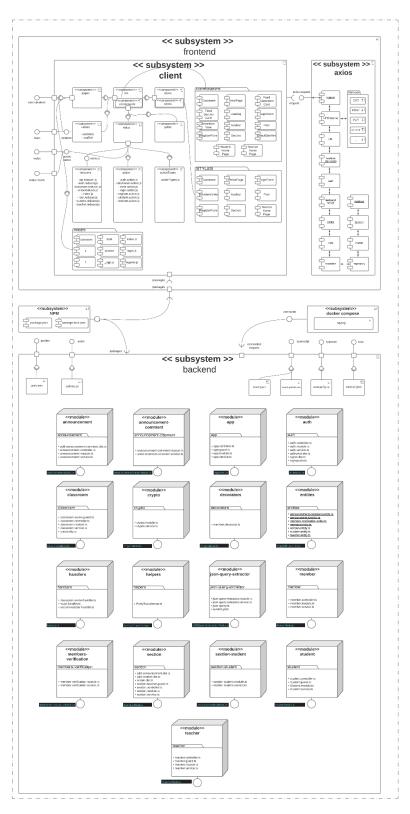
#### 2.2 Risks and Volatile Areas

There is little to no time to consider, implement, and practice a contingency path. As such, we should not be facing any further changes in the requirements at the moment and our choice of technology is likely to remain consistent throughout the project - we have not faced any conditions where we wouldn't use our current set of tools and implement functionalities further with those.

It's also important to note that any further developments and requirements would further alter our timeline as altered it already is. If any developments do arise, our initial approach would be as always to understand if it's a priority, and if so, when does it become a priority to get done first.

### **System Architecture**

# 2.3 System Level Architect



### 2.4 Software Architecture

[The software architecture should include how the User level Layer will interact with the Database layer. Use a diagram for showing the interaction between the layers.

- User Interface Layer
- Middle Tier
- Data Access Layer.
- Or other

You can give any other architecture also]

### 3 Design Strategy

The design strategies involve revolving around the single responsibility principle and that of modularity, where each module is designed to serve a unique purpose and has a unique identity within the system. Each piece of technology exists for a specific purpose, and that purpose only. It is to encapsulate the logic of a certain problem to be solved in a certain way.

Our architecture is mostly generic in terms of a client/server architecture, with the client providing server-side rendering for the interface, and the backend, being inspired by Angular, follows a similar approach of using modules collected into functional sets, applications being defined by modules, root modules enabling bootstrapping, feature modules, and so on.

What is our back-end? We're working with NestJS, a very strong framework on top of NodeJS meant to provide a robust architectural solution for backend development. NestJS provides a lot of benefits right out of the box. NestJS works by separating business logic from modules from service from tests, and the main entry file of the project

We wanted to enforce an architecture for great design, and enforcement just happened with NestJS.

Apart from this, the main overall organization of the system consists of a front-end, a back-end, a MySQL container being spun up thanks to Docker Compose. On a higher-level note, it is a client-server architecture implementation.

As for the key abstractions, we wanted to solve our problems with solutions such as,

- 1. Server Side Rendering the user gets the initial page immediately in response to their request
- 2. **Redux** state management is often hectic and can become unmaintainable. For this reason, we decided to with Redux
- 3. **Modules** we wanted to develop services as a per module setup, which is what NestJS provides
- 4. Material UI we wanted to rapidly develop UI, so we chose the option of Material UI

Mechanisms to achieve this come built-in with the libraries and frameworks we are using, with minimal need to develop a setup from scratch.

We wanted to take this approach/strategy for a couple of reasons,

- 1. We believe that good design is essential for good software. We did not want to write an application using just any tool (like NodeJS or express) because we wanted to expose ourselves to more paradigms and take an approach that speaks good software engineering
- 2. We wanted the code base to be maintainable and easily workable on by group members thanks to the modular system

For example, some areas for consideration for the system can be,

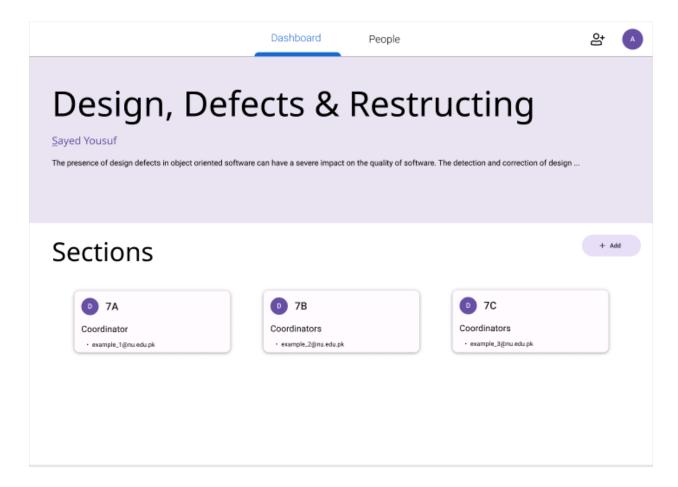
- 1. **Future System Extension Or Enhancement** the project is structured as such to be catered towards future development quite easily. The project is split, again, into modules, with pages and their respective services and calls that they need to operate
- 2. **System Reuse** the paradigms on which the project is built promotes reusability via components on the front-end side, and through modular reuse on the back-end side
- 3. **User Interface Paradigms** this project is simply a web application. Users will use the application via GUI (Graphical User Interface)

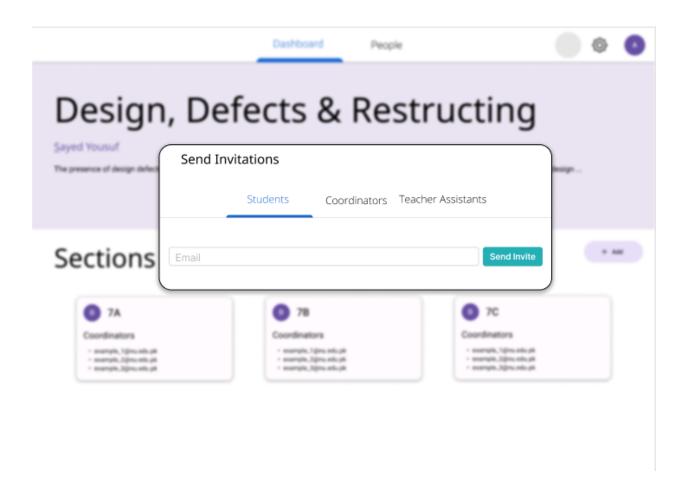
- 4. **Data Management (Storage, Distribution, Persistence)** the environment in use is a development environment, and hence the database server being used exists locally on the machine. Besides this as a storage, we do not have a distributed network for distribution, redundancy, and persistence
- 5. **Concurrency & Synchronization** there is almost always a single user, which does not derive much focus towards proper concurrency and synchronization programming

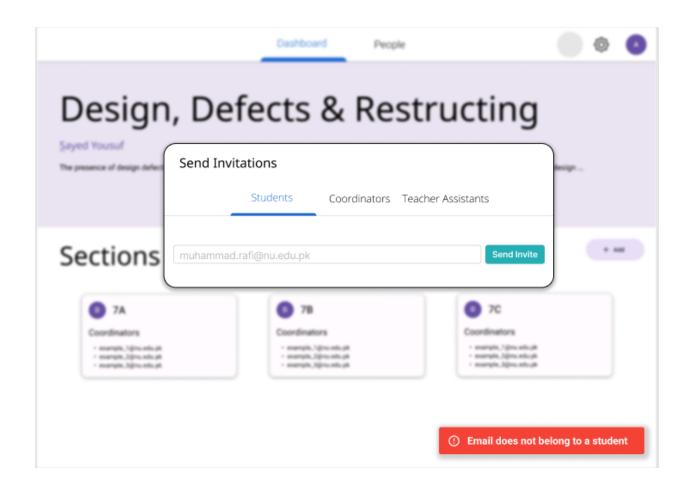
# 4 Detailed System Design

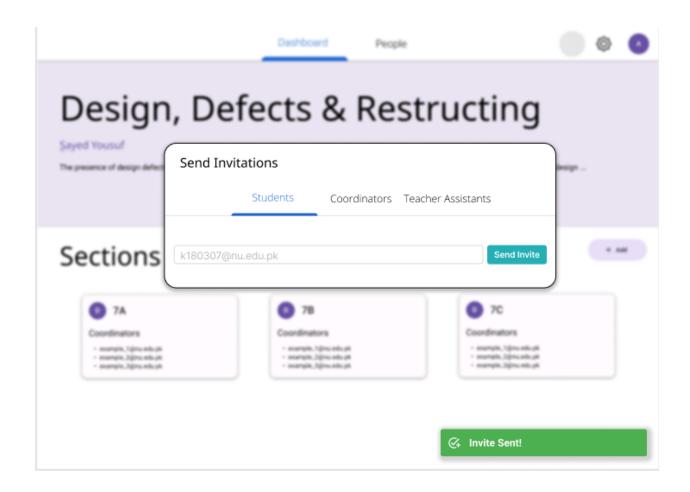
### **Detailed GUIs**

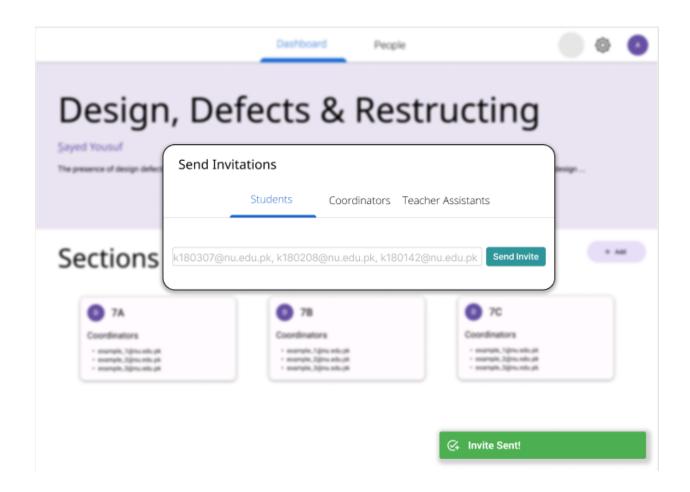
The GUI is VOLATILE. The below wireframes are only "visual perspectives", that is, how something may look like, instead of being exactly the same as the wireframes.

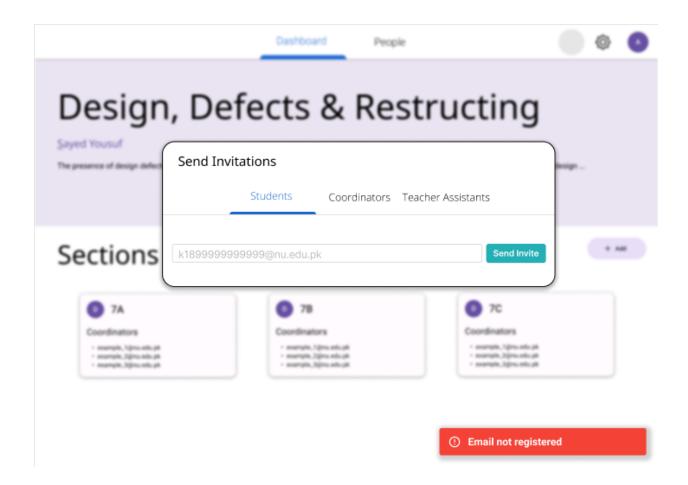


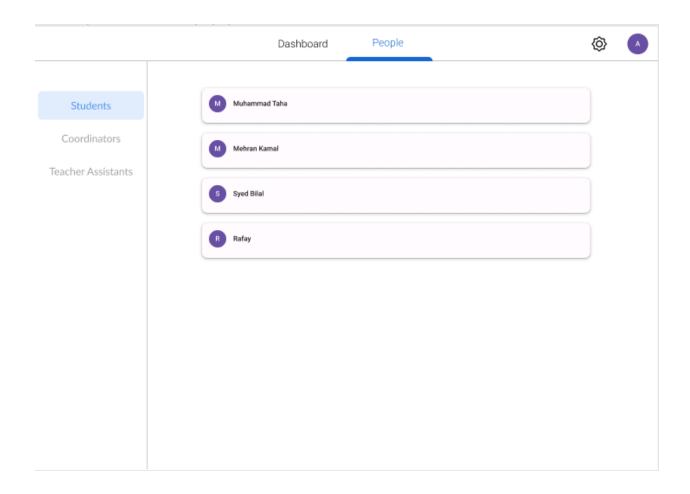


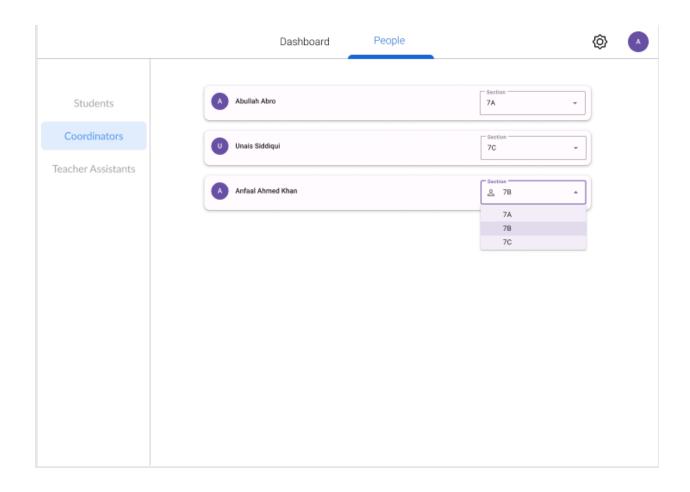


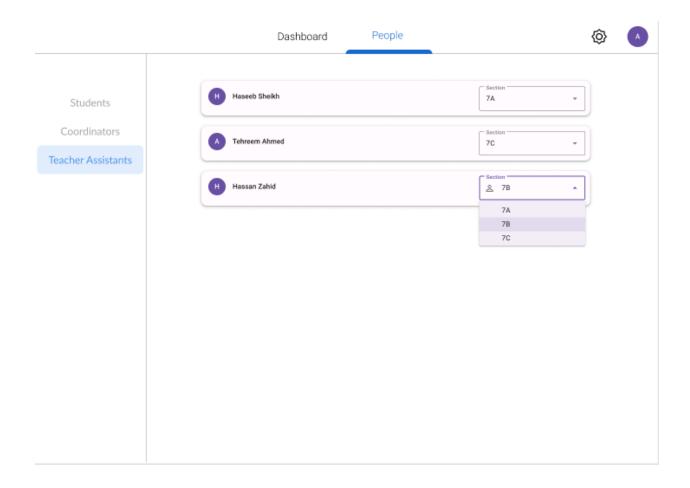


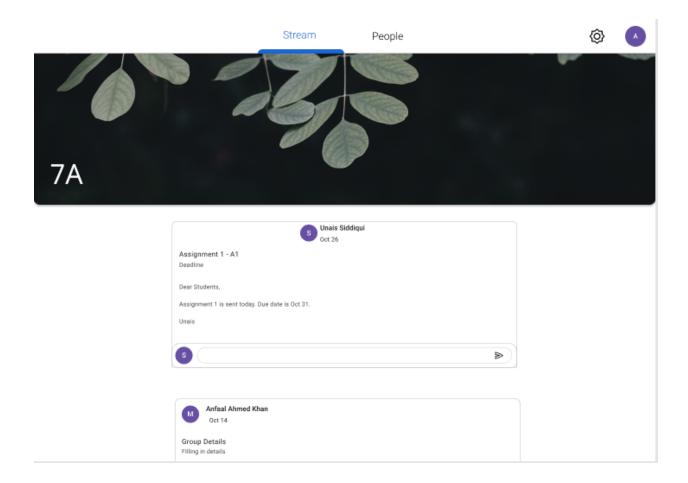






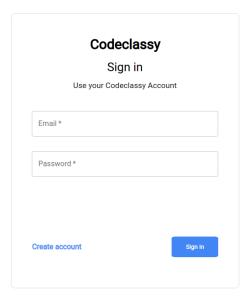




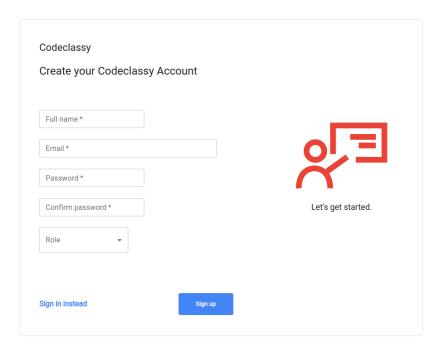


### **Current Visuals**

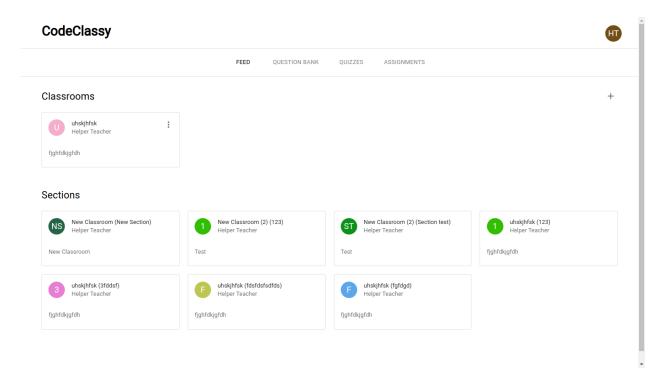
### Login



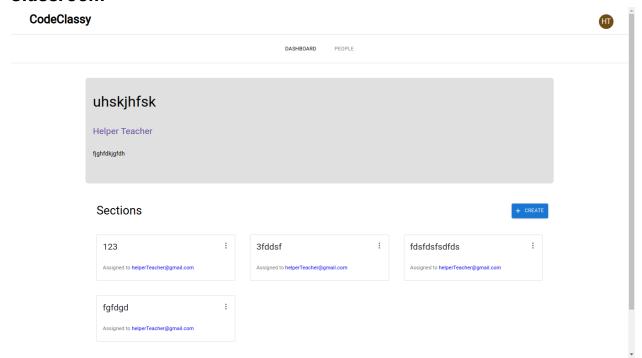
# Register



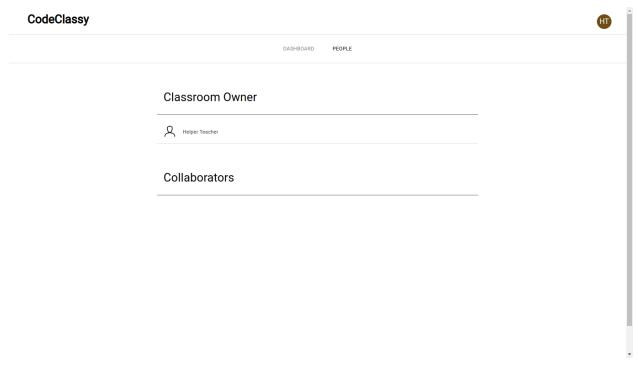
# Teacher Home Page



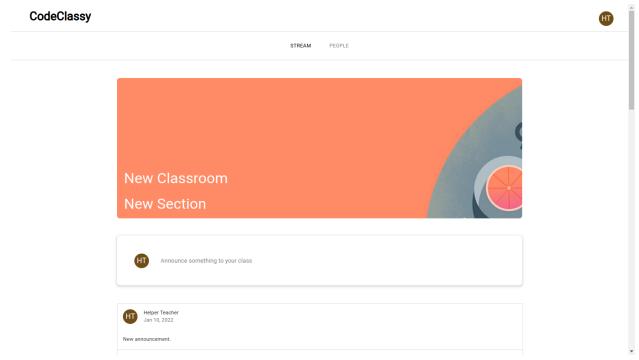
### Classroom



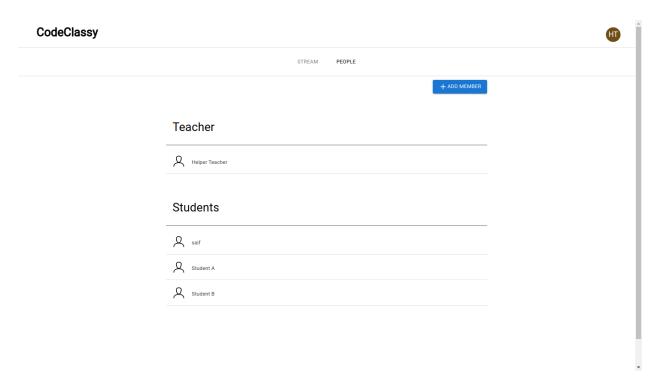
Classroom - People



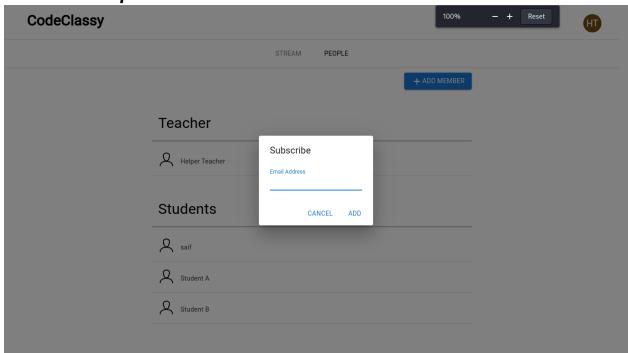
### Section



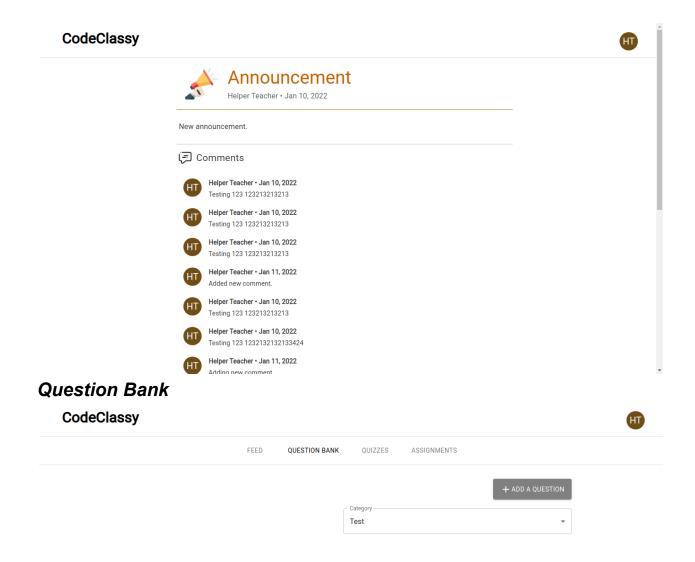
Section - People



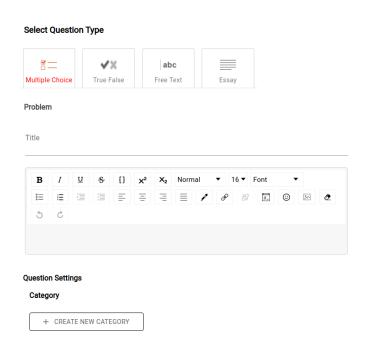
Section - People - Add Member



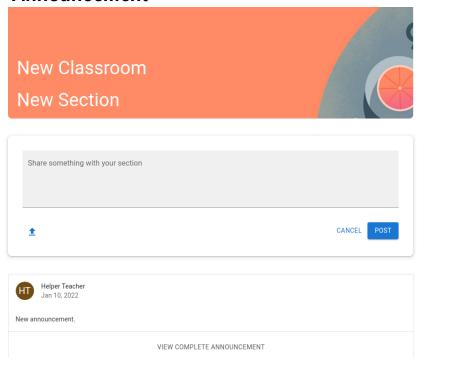
**Announcement** 



### **New Question Creation**

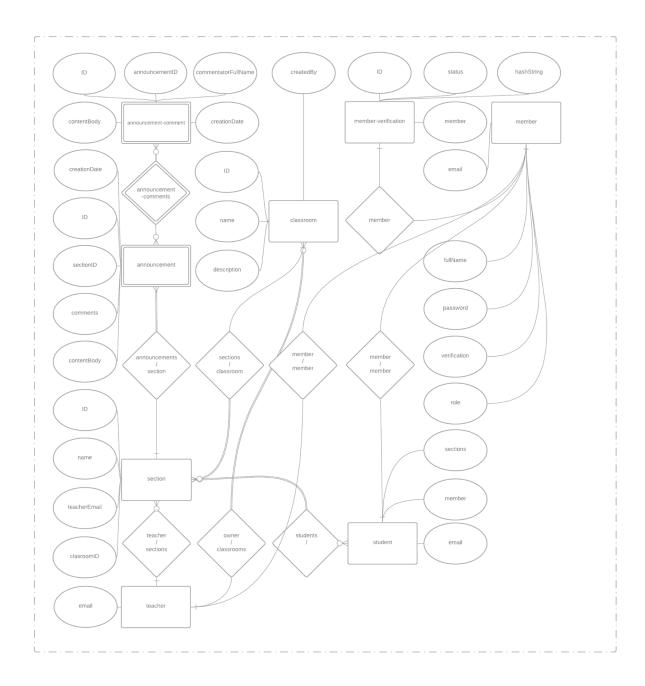


### Classroom - Announcement



# 4.1 Database Design

### **ER Model**



# Data Dictionary

#### announcement

Column Name	#	Data Type	Not Null	Auto Increment	Key	Default	Extra	Expression	Comment
ANG ID		varchar(36)	[v]	[]	PRI				
<sup>AB</sup> ដូ sectionID	2	varchar(255)	[v]	[]	MUL				
<sup>ABC</sup> contentBody	3	varchar(255)	[v]	[]					
creationDate	4	datetime(6)	[v]	[]		CURRENT.	DEFAUI		

### annoncement\_comment

Column Name	#	Data Type	Not Null	Auto Increment	Key	Default	Extra	Expression	Comment
<sup>A</sup> <b>G</b> ID		varchar(36)	[v]		PRI				
👊 announcemen	2	varchar(255)	[v]	[]	MUL				
<sup>ABC</sup> commentatori	3	varchar(255)	[v]	[]					
<sup>RBC</sup> contentBody	4	varchar(255)	[v]						
creationDate	5	datetime(6)	[v]			CURRENT.	DEFAU		

#### classroom

Column Name	#	Data Type	Not Null	Auto Increm	ent	Key	Default	Extra	Expression	Comment
<sup>ABC</sup> name		varchar(255)	[v]	[]						
<sup>ABC</sup> description	2	varchar(255)	[v]							
<sup>ឧទ</sup> ដ្ឋ createdBy		varchar(255)	[v]	[]		MUL				
ARGID	4	varchar(36)	[v]	[]		PRI				

#### member

Column Name	#	Data Type	Not Null	Auto Increment	Key	Default	Extra	Expression	Comment
<sup>A</sup> § email		varchar(255)	[v]		PRI				
RBC fullName	2	varchar(255)	[v]						
password		varchar(255)	[v]						
<sup>ABC</sup> role	4	varchar(255)	[v]						

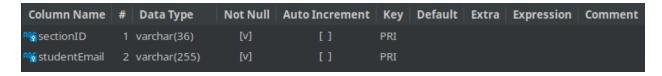
### member\_verification

Column Name	#	Data Type	Not Null	Auto Increment	Key	Default	Extra	Expression	Comment
<sup>123</sup> status		tinyint	[v]			0			
ABC hashString	2	varchar(255)	[v]						
nember Email	3	varchar(255)		[]	UNI				
er ID	4	varchar(36)	[v]	[]	PRI				

#### section



#### section\_students



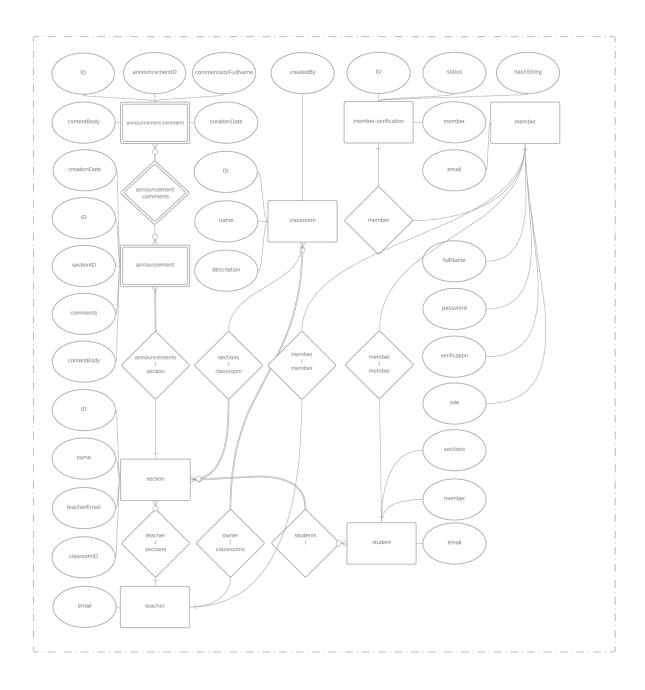
#### student



#### teacher



### 4.1.1 ER Diagram



The Entity Relationship diagram consists of currently the following entities,

- 1. announcement-comment (WEAK) for each of the comment that can be posted on each announcement
- 2. announcement (WEAK) for a post that a teacher can make in a section
- 3. section (WEAK) for a section that exists under a classroom
- 4. teacher (STRONG) for teacher representation within the data model
- 5. student (STRONG) for the student representation within the data model
- 6. member (STRONG) for the member representation within the database
- 7. member-verification (STRONG) for verifying the member entity

8. classroom (STRONG) - for the classrooms which will be lead by the teacher and where sections can be created

### 4.1.2 Data Dictionary

### 4.1.2.1 announcement-comment

announcement-comment								
Name announcement-comment								
Alias		NA						
Where-us	ed/how-	For each of the comment that can be posted on each announcement					nnouncement	
Content description	on	Ш						
Column Name	Descripti	on	Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type	
email	The email of the comme		VARCHA R(255)	255	[v]	NA	PRI	

#### 4.1.2.2 announcement

	announcement									
Name		anı	nouncemer	nt						
Alias		NA	NA							
Where-us used	sed/how-	For a post that a teacher can make in a section								
Content description	on	Ш								
Column Name	Descripti	on	Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type			
ID	The announcem ID	nent	VARCHA R	36	[v]	NA	PRI			
sectionbID	The section ID to which the announcement belongs to		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	MUL			

contentBo dy	The actual announcement content	VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	NA
creationD ate	The date at which the announcement was created	DATETIM E	6	[v]	NA	NA

### 4.1.2.3 section

				section	)		
Name		Sec	ction				
Alias		NA					
Where-us	ed/how-	For	a section the	at exists unde	er a classro	om	
Content (I) description							
Column Name	Description		Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type
ID	The section	i ID	VARCHA R	36	[v]	NA	PRI
name	The name of the section	of	VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	NA
classroom ID	The ID of the classroom that the section belongs to		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	MUL
teacherE mail	The email of the teacher whom the section is assigned		VARCHA R	255	[//]	NA	MUL

#### 4.1.2.4 teacher

teacher							
Name	teacher						
Alias	NA						
Where-used/how-used	For teacher representation within the data model						

Content	[,	/]				
description	on					
Column	Description	n Type	Length	Null	Default	Key Type
Name	-			able	Value	
email	The email of	VARCHA	255	[v]	NA	PRI
	the teacher	R				

### 4.1.2.5 student

	student								
Name student									
Alias NA									
Where-us	ed/how-	For student representation within the data model							
Content description	on	[/]							
Column Name	Description		Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type		
email	The email of the student		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	PRI		

### 4.1.2.6 member

	member									
Name		me	mber							
Alias		NA	\							
Where-us	sed/how-	For	the member	representati	on within the	e database				
Content description	on	[/]								
Column Name	Descripti	on	Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type			
email	The email of the membe	-	VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	PRI			
fullName	The full nar		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA				
password		The password of the member		255	[v]	NA				
role	The role of member	the	VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA				

### 4.1.2.7 member-verification

	member-verification									
Name		me	mber-verif	ication						
Alias		NΑ								
Where-us	sed/how-	For	verifying the	member ent	ity					
Content [/] description										
Column Name	Descripti	on	Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type			
status	The status the verificat		tinyint	NA	[v]	0	NA			
hashString	The hash generated from the string		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA				
memberE mail		The email of the member		255	[]	NA	UNI			
ID	The ID of the member to verified		VARCHA R	36	[V]	NA	PRI			

### 4.1.2.8 classroom

	classroom									
Name		cla	ssroom							
Alias		NA								
Where-us	sed/how-		For the classrooms which will be lead by the teacher and where sections can be created							
Content description	on	[/]								
Column Name	Descripti	on	Туре	Length	Null able	Default Value	Key Type			
name	The name of the classroom		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	NA			
descriptio n	The description the classroo		VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	NA			

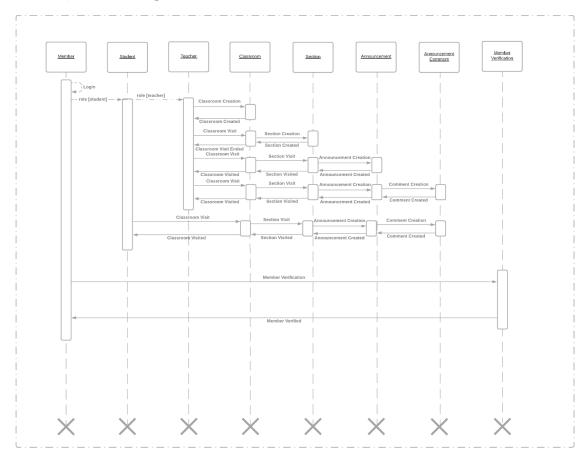
createdBy	The person who created the classroom	VARCHA R	255	[v]	NA	MUL
ID	The ID of the classroom	VARCHA R	36	[v]	NA	PRI

The notation to for the content description is given below:

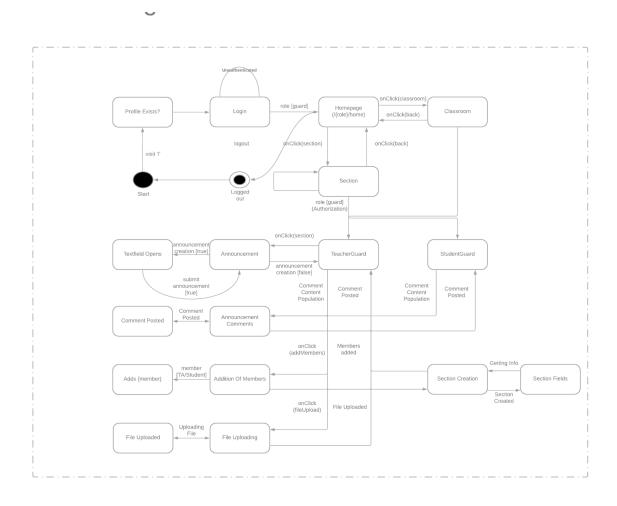
Data construct	Notation	Meaning
	=	is composed of
Sequence	+	And
Selection	ΩJ	either-or
Repetition	{}n	n repetitions of
	()	optional data
	*	delimits comments
1		
•		

# 4.2 Application Design

# 4.2.1 Sequence Diagram



# 4.2.2 State Diagram



#### 4.2.2.1 References

[1]: <u>James Ivers</u>, JI, November 2021, "Untangling the Knot: Enabling Rapid Software Architecture Evolution", Software Engineering Institute,

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=742903

# 5 Appendices

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