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**Activity Name: Student Directory Management** 

### **Project Overview**

The Student Directory Management System is a simple CRUD-based web application developed to assist a college registrar in efficiently managing student records. Built using PHP (with PDO), MySQL, and basic HTML/CSS/JS, the system allows for easy addition, viewing, editing, and deletion of student entries. It ensures that all relevant student details such as ID, names, program, year level, and email are properly recorded, updated, or removed when needed.

This project is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in full-stack development, particularly in linking frontend interfaces with backend logic using secure, prepared statements in PHP. It also emphasizes the importance of structured code organization, user-friendly interfaces, and secure data handling.

#### **Database Schema**

The system uses a single table in a MySQL database named **student\_management**. Below is the SQL script used to set up the database and the **students** table:

```
CREATE DATABASE student_management;
USE student_management;
CREATE TABLE students (
    student_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    first_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
    last_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
    year_level VARCHAR(10) NOT NULL,
    program VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
    email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
);
```

Each student has a unique **student\_id**, along with fields for their **personal and academic information**. Data types and constraints were defined to ensure only valid data is stored.

### CRUD Feature Walkthrough

The system implements the four fundamental **CRUD operations**: Create, Read, Update, and Delete. Each function is handled through a dedicated form interface and a PHP backend script using **PDO with prepared statements** for secure database interaction.



### **Create (Add New Student)**

• Page: insert.html

• Script: records.php

- Main Coding Schema: \$stmt = \$conn->prepare("INSERT INTO students (first\_name, last\_name, year\_level, program, email) VALUES (:first\_name, :last\_name, :year\_level, :program, :email)");
- Process: Users access a clean and responsive form where they enter student details. Upon submission, the data is sent via POST to records.php, which validates inputs and uses a prepared PDO statement to insert the new record into the students table. A confirmation message is displayed after successful insertion. This approach ensures data integrity and protects against SQL injection.

#### Read (View Student Records)

- Pages: records.html (for viewing all records) and retrieve.html (for retrieving a specific record by ID)
- Scripts: show php and retrieve php
- Main Coding Schema: SELECT \* FROM students WHERE student\_id
   = :student\_id
- Process: The records.html page embeds show.php in an iframe, which executes a SELECT query to fetch and display all student records in a structured table. For more specific searches, retrieve.html allows the user to input a student ID, which is then handled by retrieve.php. This script uses a secure SELECT statement to retrieve and display the matching student. If no match is found, an appropriate message is shown. Both read functions ensure clean presentation and meaningful feedback.

#### **Update (Modify Existing Student)**

• Page: update.html

• Script: update.php

Main Coding Schema: UPDATE students SET first\_name =
 :first\_name, last\_name = :last\_name, year\_level = :year\_level, program
 = :program, email = :email WHERE student id = :student id

#### • Process:

Users enter the **student ID** along with any fields they wish to update. The system first retrieves the existing record using the ID. Any new



values submitted are used to replace the old ones, while unchanged fields retain their original values. The script uses a PDO **UPDATE** query to save the changes. This method enables **partial updates**, improves flexibility, and avoids overwriting data unnecessarily.

### **Delete (Remove Student Record)**

• Page: delete.html

Script: delete.php

Main Coding Schema: DELETE FROM students WHERE student\_id
 = :student\_id

Process:Users provide a student ID through a simple form. The value is passed via POST to delete.php, which runs a DELETE query using a prepared statement. If a matching record exists, it is removed from the database and a success message is displayed. If no record matches, the user is informed. This process ensures that data removal is deliberate, controlled, and traceable.

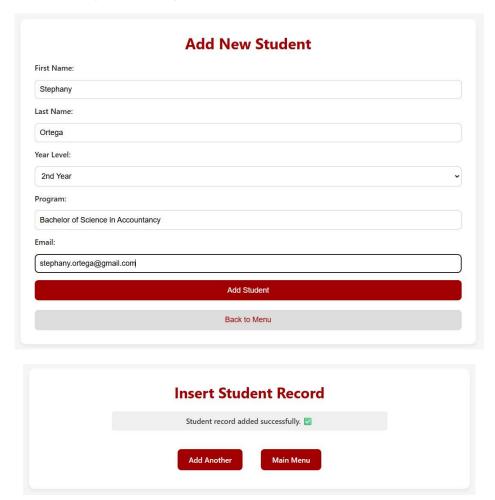
### **Screenshots of the App in Action**

1. Homepage - Main Menu (index.html)

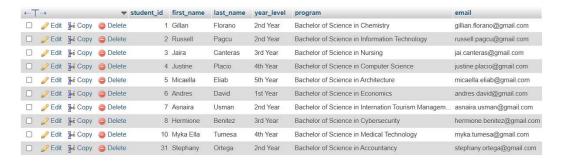


Annotation: This screenshot shows the homepage (index.html), which acts as the central navigation menu for the Student Directory Management System. From here, users can access all core CRUD functionalities: Add Student, View All Records, Retrieve by ID, Update Existing Record, and Delete Entry. Each link routes the user to a specific HTML form or interface that interacts with its respective backend PHP logic using modular file structure and clean UI design.

### 2. Insert Form (insert.html)



After the insertion of the **Data**, a message will appear that it was successfully added to the back-end.

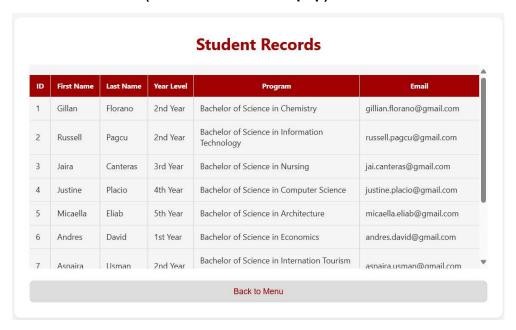


Here we can conclude that the information we inputted was added on the back-end (local host).



**Annotation:** This screenshot shows the **Create operation** where the user submits a new student record using the **insert.html** form. The fields include First Name, Last Name, Year Level, Program, and Email. The success message confirms the data has been inserted into the database using a **PDO INSERT statement**.

### 2. All Records Table (records.html - show.php)



**Annotation:** This screenshot demonstrates the **Read operation** for viewing all student entries. The data is fetched from the **students** table using a **SELECT \* query** and displayed inside a styled HTML table. The records are embedded using an iframe to call the show.php script.

### 3. Retrieve Record (retrieve.html - retrieve.php)

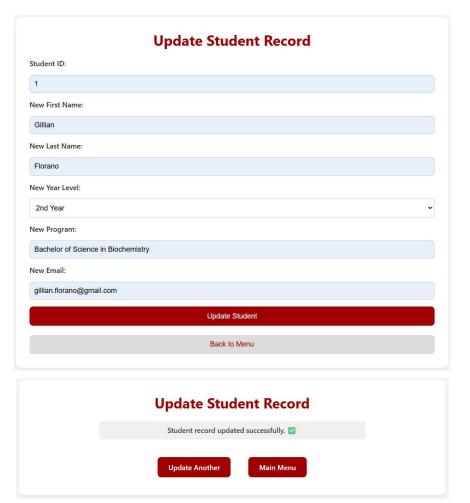


**Annotation:** Here, the user performs a **Read operation** by retrieving a specific student using their **student ID**. The form in **retrieve.html** sends the input via POST to retrieve.php, which displays a single matching record using a **SELECT WHERE** query. If no match is found, a warning is shown.

### 4. Update Form (update.html - update.php)



As you can see, this is the **original data** that I have on the table in the back-end.



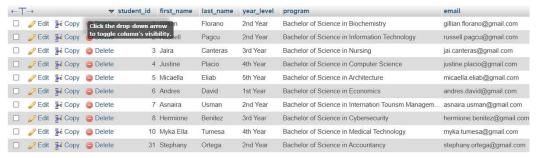
Here, I changed the program of student\_id = 1, after that I got a successful message saying that it was updated on the back-end.



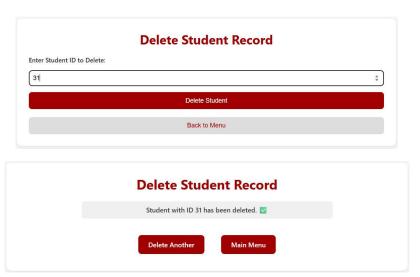
Upon checking on the back-end table, I can conclude that it is working. The information that I updated was successful.

**Annotation:** This screenshot illustrates the **Update operation**, where the user updates a student's record by submitting their ID and new details. Fields left blank are ignored. The backend logic retrieves the existing values and selectively updates only those that were modified using a **PDO UPDATE query**.

### 5. Delete Student (delete.html - delete.php)



As you can see, this is the **original data** that I have on the table in the back-end.





Here, I was targeting to **delete** the **data** of the **student with id = 31**. After clicking the delete button, I got a successful message saying that it was deleted in the back-end table.



Upon checking, I can therefore conclude that it is working. The student with id = 31 which I was targeting to delete was successfully removed from the table.

**Annotation:** This image shows the **Delete operation**, where a student record is removed from the database based on the provided ID. The user enters the ID in **delete.html**, and the script delete.php uses a **PDO DELETE statement**. A confirmation or error message is shown based on the result.

### Challenges Encountered and Solutions

#### 1. Database Connection Issues

Issue: Initial PDO connection failed due to missing DB or wrong credentials.

**Fix:** Added try-catch block and verified MySQL configuration in XAMPP. Used correct dbname and default root user with no password.

#### 2. Empty Inputs in Update

Issue: Overwrote values with blanks during partial updates.

Fix: Fetched original values first, then used updated fields only if not empty.

#### 3.Record Not Found on Delete/Retrieve

**Issue:** Users tried to retrieve/delete IDs that didn't exist.

Fix: Added feedback messages to inform users of unsuccessful actions.

### <u>Learnings & Reflections</u>

Building this project gave me practical experience with the complete web development process, from designing a structured and efficient database to implementing secure and organized back-end logic, and finally integrating it with a clean and functional front-end interface. I gained a deeper understanding of how PHP with PDO handles data securely through prepared statements, and how proper file structuring contributes to maintainability. Through debugging and testing, I improved my ability to identify and resolve issues across both the server and client sides. Most importantly, I learned that



even a basic CRUD application requires careful coordination between every layer of the stack to ensure data integrity, user experience, and scalability. This project strengthened my foundation and prepared me to take on more advanced web development challenges with confidence.