

<b>Project Name</b>	Help Session Activity app	
<b>Team Members</b>		
Name	email	ERD Link
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Name	Description
ta	A TA (Teaching Assistant) is a student or teaching staff responsible for providing academic assistance to students, managing help sessions, and handling other duties like grading. TAs are assigned shifts during which they are available for help sessions.
student	A student is an individual enrolled in one or more courses and who books sessions or appointments with TAs to receive assistance. Students may attend help sessions, rate TAs, and receive academic support.
shift	A shift is a predefined period during which a TA is available to provide help to students. Each shift may include multiple sessions booked by students.
session	A session is a scheduled interaction between a TA and a student where academic assistance is provided. Students book sessions during a TA's shift, and each session focuses on a particular topic or type of assistance (e.g., assignment help, Q&A).
appointment	An appointment is a scheduled meeting between a TA and a student, distinct from a regular help session. Appointments may be used for more personalized assistance or guidance.
rating	A rating is feedback provided by a student about the quality of the help session. Ratings help assess the TA's performance and the student's satisfaction with the session.
course	A course is an academic subject or topic taught in a department that students enroll in. TAs assist students with course-related queries during help sessions.

Element or value name	Element or value display name	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable values	Required?	Accepts null value?	Foreign key?
ta_id	ta_id	unique identifier for the teaching assistant	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
student_id	student_id	identifier for the TA since they are also a student	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (student)
semester	semester	semester during which the TA is working	VARCHAR	10	fall, spring, summer, winter	y	n	n
year	year	academic year	UNSIGNED TINYINT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
course_id	course_id	identifier for the course the TA is assisting	UNSIGNED SMALLINT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (course)

Element or value name	Element or value display name	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable values	Required?	Accepts null value	Foreign key?
student_id	student_id	unique identifier for the student	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
name	student_name	full name of the student	VARCHAR	255	N/A	y	n	n
type	student_type	type of student (undergraduate or graduate)	VARCHAR	15	undergraduate, graduate, phd	y	n	n
course_id	course_id	identifier for the course the student is enrolled in	UNSIGNED SMALLINT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (course)
semester	semester	semester during which the TA is working	VARCHAR	10	fall, spring, summer, winter	y	n	n
year	year	academic year	UNSIGNED TINYINT	N/A	valid year values	y	n	n

Element or value name	Element or value display na	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable values	Required?	Accepts null valu	Foreign key?
session_id	session_id	partial unique identifier for the session	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
shift_id	shift_id	identifier for the shift in which the session occurs(partial unique ide	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (shift)
student_id	student_id	identifier for the student requesting the session	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (student)
request_time	request_time	time when the session was requested	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
start_time	start_time	start time of the session	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
end_time	end_time	end time of the session	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
num_of_students	num_of_students	number of students attending the session	UNSIGNED TINYINT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
status	status	status of the session (completed or no show)	VARCHAR	15	completed, no show	y	n	n
assistance_type	assistance_type	type of help provided (grading, assignment, Q&A)	VARCHAR	15	grading, assignment, q&a	y	n	n

Element or value name	Element or value display na	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable value	Required?	Accepts null valu	Foreign key?
shift_id	shift_id	unique identifier for the shift	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
ta_id	ta_id	identifier for the TA in the shift	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (ta)
start_time	start_time	start time of the shift	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
end_time	end_time	end time of the shift	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
classroom	classroom	location or virtual room for the shift	VARCHAR	15	N/A	y	n	n

Element or value name	Element or value display name	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable values	Required?	Accepts null values	Foreign key?
rating_id	rating_id	partial unique identifier for the rating	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
session_id	session_id	identifier for the session being rated(partial unique identifier)	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (session)
student_id	student_id	identifier for the student giving the rating	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (student)
rating_score	rating_score	numeric score given for the session	UNSIGNED TINYINT	N/A	0-10	y	n	n

Element or value name	Element or value display na	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable values	Required?	Accepts null valu	Foreign key?
appointment_id	appointment_id	unique identifier for the appointment	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
student_id	student_id	identifier for the student requesting the appointment	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (student)
ta_id	ta_id	identifier for the TA attending the appointment	UNSIGNED INT	N/A	N/A	y	n	y (ta)
start_time	start_time	start time of the appointment	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
end_time	end_time	end time of the appointment	DATETIME	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
num_of_students	num_of_students	number of students attending the appointment	UNSIGNED TINYINT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
status	status	status of the appointment (accepted or rejected)	VARCHAR	15	accepted or rejected	y	n	n



Element or value name	Element or value display na	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable value	Required?	Accepts null valu	Foreign key?
course_id	course_id	unique identifier for the course	UNSIGNED SMALLINT	N/A	N/A	y	n	n
name	course_name	name of the course	VARCHAR	255	N/A	y	n	n
department	department	department offering the course	VARCHAR	50	N/A	y	n	n

This can be used to manually create a data dictionary. Use one row for each data element, and do not leave rows, columns, or cells blank. Add rows and columns as necessary, and enter n/a if nothing applies. See below for an explanation of column headers.

Explanation of column headers:

**Element or value display name:** What is the name used in your data file?

**Description:** Write a brief definition, stated in the singular, that could stand alone from other element definitions.

**Data type:** For example, indicate varchar, integer, date, etc.

**Character length:** For example, the maximum length for Excel is 255, so indicate 255 or less.

**Acceptable values:** List all acceptable values, separated by pipes ( | ). This may be a field name or a range of values.

**Required?:** Enter y/n to indicate whether this field is required.

**Accepts null value?:** This required to run calculations on your data. Indicate y/n if null value is allowable.

*A note on null values: Null is the absence of a recorded value for a field. A null value differs from a value of zero in that zero may represent the measure of an attribute, while a null value indicates that no measurement has been taken.*

**Foreign Key?:** Enter y/n to indicate whether this field is a foreign key. If the referenced table is not obvious from the element name, add a comment.

Element or value name	Element or value display name	Description	Data type	Character length	Acceptable values	Required?	Accepts null value?	Foreign key?
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This is for you or your team to keep track of open issues.

Based on			
<a href="https://data.nal.usda.gov/data-dictionary-blank-template">https://data.nal.usda.gov/data-dictionary-blank-template</a>			