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**College of Engineering**

**Computer Engineering Department**

# COMPE CONNECT

A COG ELECT 3 PROJECT

Presented to

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# INTRODUCTION

## Overview of the System

**COMPE CONNECT** is a dedicated platform for Computer Engineering students at the Western Institute of Technology. It serves as a streamlined channel where students can submit, track, and receive responses to their concerns, suggestions, or feedback related to department matters. By centralizing communication, **COMPE CONNECT** aims to improve accessibility to departmental support, foster transparency, and enhance the responsiveness of administrative and academic staff to student needs. This platform not only simplifies communication but also encourages active engagement from students in shaping their academic environment.

## Features of the system

The system features a user-friendly login and registration page, complemented by a carousel that displays a slideshow of featured photos from the department as an engaging introduction. The main home page provides access to essential functions: a **Concerns** page where students can submit complaints, suggestions, or other issues to the department, and a **Response** page where students can view replies from the admin. A **Logout** button is also conveniently located on this page for easy exit.

For administrators, a separate login page directs them to a dashboard where they can efficiently manage student concerns, respond directly, and, if necessary, delete student accounts. This

structured layout ensures seamless communication and management between students and department staff.

**Purpose and scope of the application**

The application is designed to serve as a dedicated communication platform for Computer Engineering students at the Western Institute of Technology, providing a streamlined way to submit, track, and receive timely responses to concerns, suggestions, and feedback related to department matters. Its primary goals are to enhance accessibility to departmental support, improve transparency in addressing student issues, and foster a responsive interaction between students and the administrative and academic staff.

**Scope:**

1. **User Access:** The platform will allow only Computer Engineering students and staff of the Western Institute of Technology to register, log in, and utilize its features.

**Limitations:**

1. **Restricted Audience:** The platform is limited to the Computer Engineering Department students and staff and does not accommodate other departments.
2. **Hosting:** The system is currently intended for local hosting, limiting its accessibility to on-premises or network-restricted use. Free hosting may be considered if feasible, but limitations in reliability and access are anticipated with such options.
3.

## Target audience

**End-Users** (Computer Engineering Students):

The primary users of the platform are Computer Engineering students at the Western Institute of Technology. These students can register, log in, and use the platform to:

- Submit concerns, suggestions, or feedback directly to the department.
- Track the status of their submissions.
- View responses from department administrators.

**Administrators** (Department Staff, Faculty and Officers):

Administrators have a designated dashboard within the platform, providing them with the following capabilities:

- Review and responding to student submissions.
- Manage student accounts as needed, including the ability to delete accounts when necessary.
- Ensure transparency and responsiveness by keeping track of student concerns and responses.

**Developers** (Development and Maintenance Team):

Developers and maintenance teams consist of the original two developers who created the website, namely Miguelito Cubita and Ronnel Galicia. Additionally, departmental officers are considered as potential future developers and maintenance team members.

- Building, deploying, and maintaining the platform to ensure its functionality and user-friendliness are their responsibility.
- Implementing improvements, addressing bugs, and updating features as needed to accommodate department requirements.
- Managing potential expansions, such as moving from local hosting to a publicly accessible server if the platform's scope broadens in the future.

**Prerequisites or System Requirements**

To start, you'll need a device like a laptop or desktop to develop your website. You'll also need a code editor, such as VS Code, for programming. A web browser to preview and test your design, and a database system like MySQL to store data. Finally, you'll need a server to host your site, either an online host or a local solution like XAMPP.

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# GETTING STARTED

## Setting up

1. **Code Editor:** Download and install a code editor, like Visual Studio Code (VS Code), which is free and versatile for web development. This is also the editor used on this project.
2. **Database System:** Install a database system to store data, such as MySQL. MySQL was also the database used on this project.
3. **Local Server:** Download and set up a local server environment like XAMPP or WAMP, which includes Apache, MySQL, and PHP. This setup allows you to run the website locally for development and testing. If you have your own server you may also use it to host your website. XAMPP was used on this project and it was hosted locally.
4. **Web Browser:** Have a web browser, such as Chrome or Firefox, to test the design and functionality of your website. Opera GX was used in this project.

## Configuration

1. Install all the previously mentioned applications. Follow the installation steps and open them.
2. Set Up the Database:
    - Create a new database for your website, and import or create tables as needed.
    - Open the XAMPP control panel, start Apache, then go to http://localhost/ to access your website.

3. Configure Project Files:
    - In your project folder, create a connection file (dbconn.php) to link website to your database.

**How to launch and access the application**

First, we must ensure we have a database ready for our website, if not we create some. Then open your server to host the website.

1. Start Your Local Server or Online server
    - For local server open the XAMPP Control Panel.
    - Start Apache and MySQL: Click "Start" next to both services. This activates your local server environment. If you installed and created your database on the MySQL app then there is no need to start the MySQL on the XAMPP Control panel.
2. Access the Application in Your Browser
    - Move Your Project Files to the XAMPP htdocs folder:
        - Locate your XAMPP installation folder, then find the htdocs directory (usually at C:\xampp\htdocs).
        - Place your project folder here. For example, if your project is named compe connect, the path should look like C:\xampp\htdocs\compe connect.
    - Open Your Web Browser:
        - Go to http://localhost/compe connect in the address bar to load the application. This URL points your browser to your project on the local server.

3. Access the Website

- You should now be able to access the website. Typically, the first page you will encounter is your index page. On this part you are free to test and change anything on the website using your code editor and it will reflect on the website by refreshing or reloading.

# ADMINISTRATION AND CONFIGURATION

## Administrator Configuration

We can configure the administrator by editing the administrator_login.php on this project, for others you can check your project and find the page that holds the administrator credentials. Below is the administrator_login.php page of this project and when can configure the administrator by changing the $admin_id and the $password.

```php
if ($_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] == 'POST') {

    $admin_id = $_POST['admin_id'];
    $password = $_POST['password'];

    if ($admin_id == 'admin' && $password == '123') {
        $_SESSION['admin_logged_in'] = true;
        header('Location: admin_dashboard.php');
        exit();
    } else {
        $login_error = "Invalid Admin ID or password.";
    }
}
```

## Administrator Interface

As administrators, we have exclusive access to the administrator dashboard, which allows us to view and respond to student concerns efficiently. The dashboard also provides the capability to delete user accounts when necessary. Additionally, we have a dedicated login page for added security and streamlined access. Below are the images of the administrator login and dashboard.

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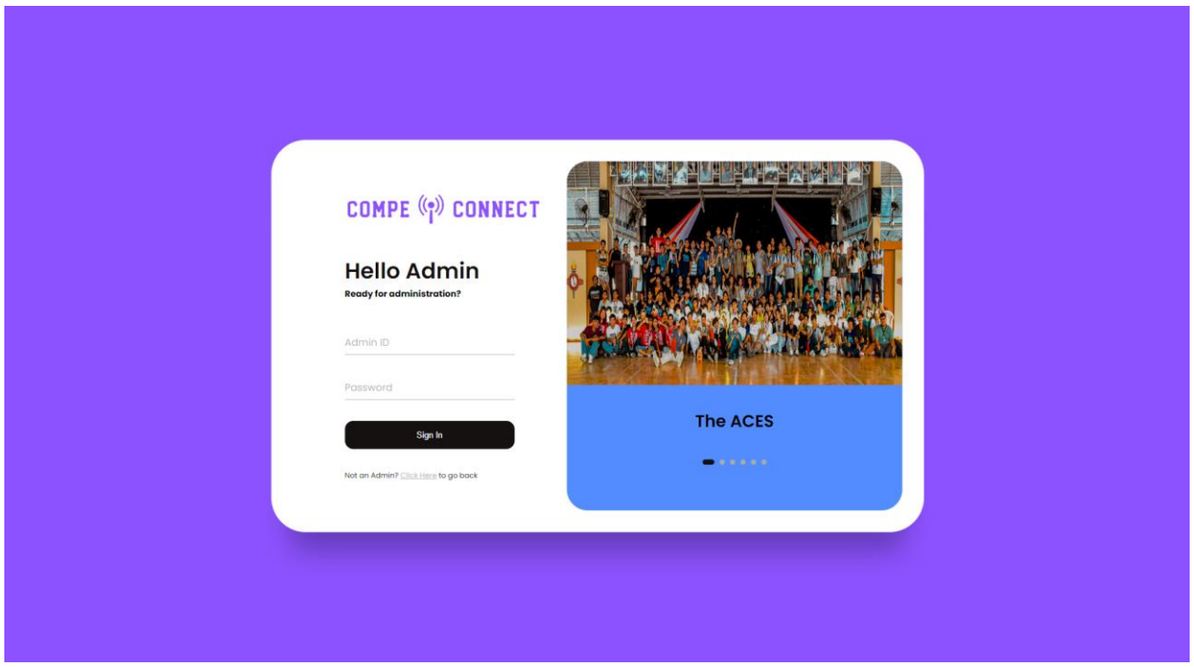


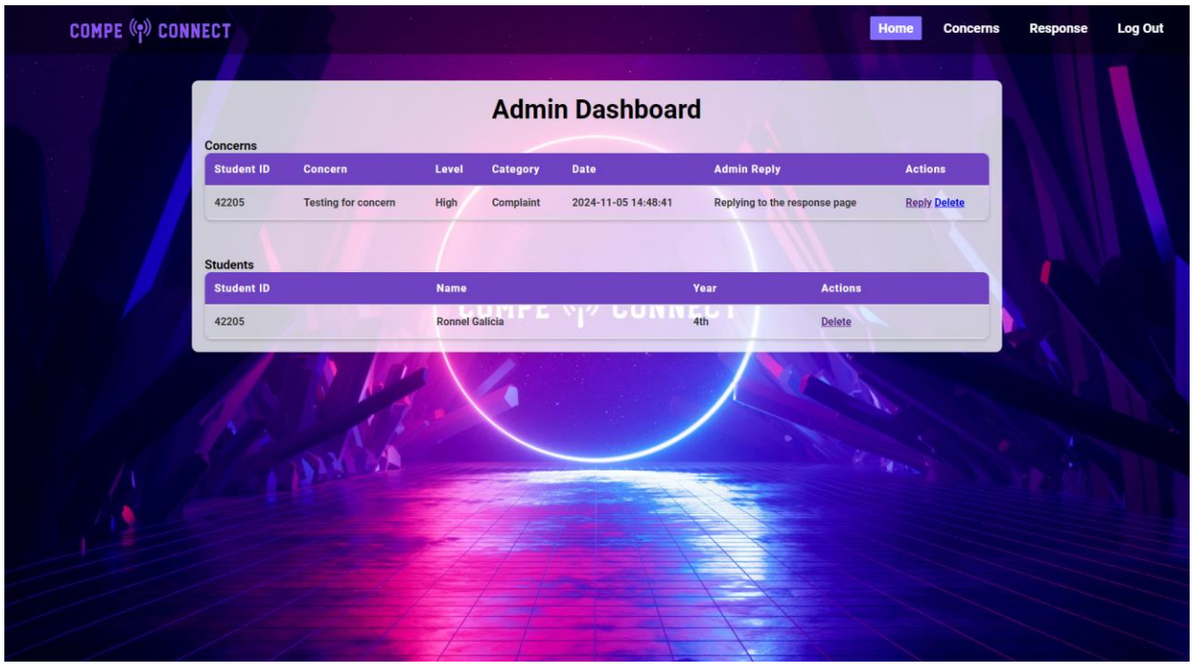

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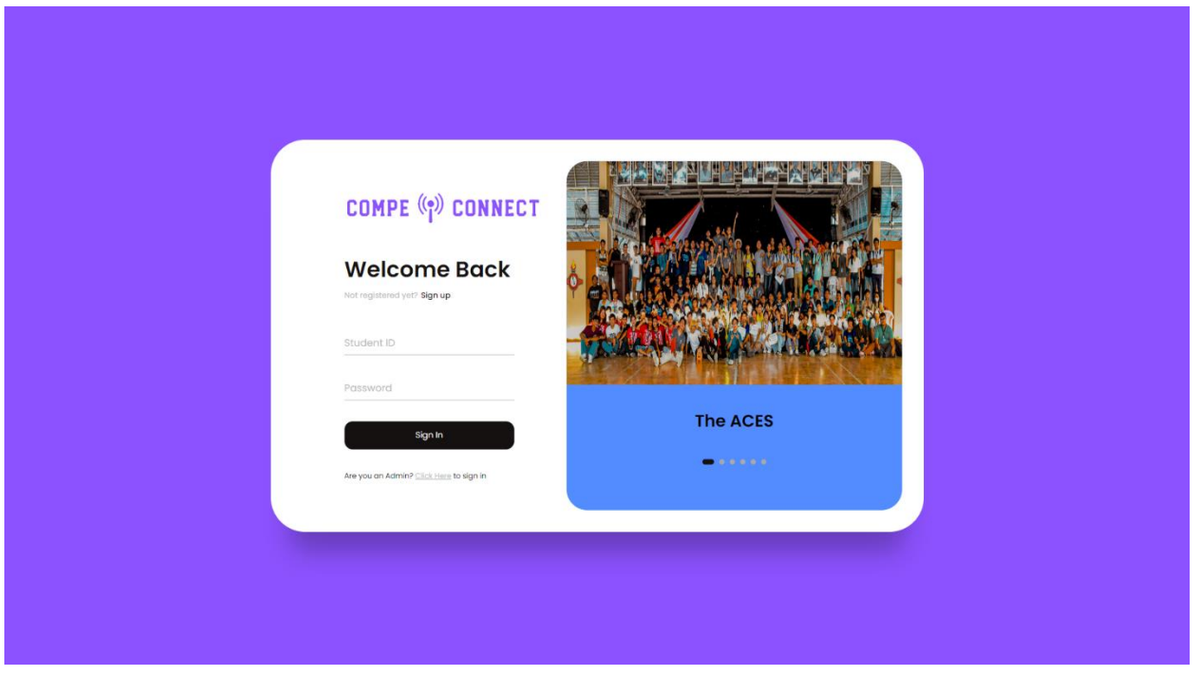
# SYSTEM TRANSACTION

## Instruction per Transaction of the System

The system allows users to operate both as students and administrators. As students, we can register and log in through dedicated registration and login pages. Once logged in, we are directed to a homepage that provides access to the **Concerns** and **Response** pages. The **Concerns** page enables students to submit their issues or inquiries to the department, which can then be reviewed on the **Response** page. This page displays the submitted concerns alongside the administrator's responses. For user convenience, a **Logout** button is also available in the navigation bar for easy access. On the other hand, the administrator transactions have already been discussed in the **Administrator Interface** section above. Please refer to that section for details. Below are the images for the student's interface.

## User Interface



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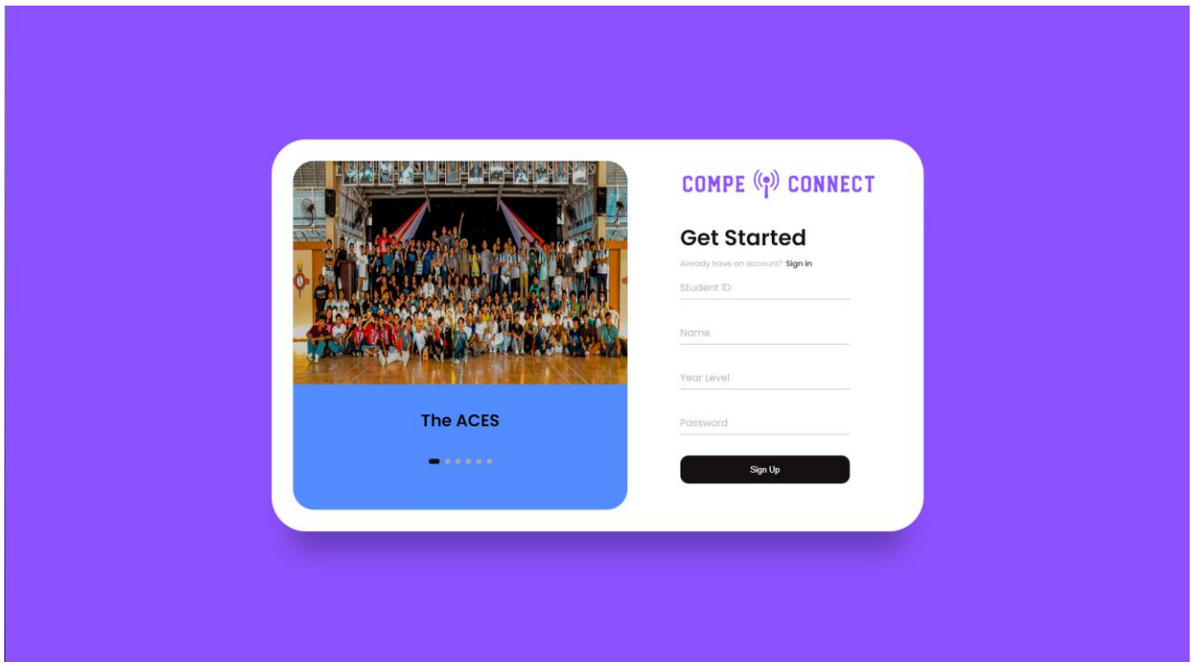


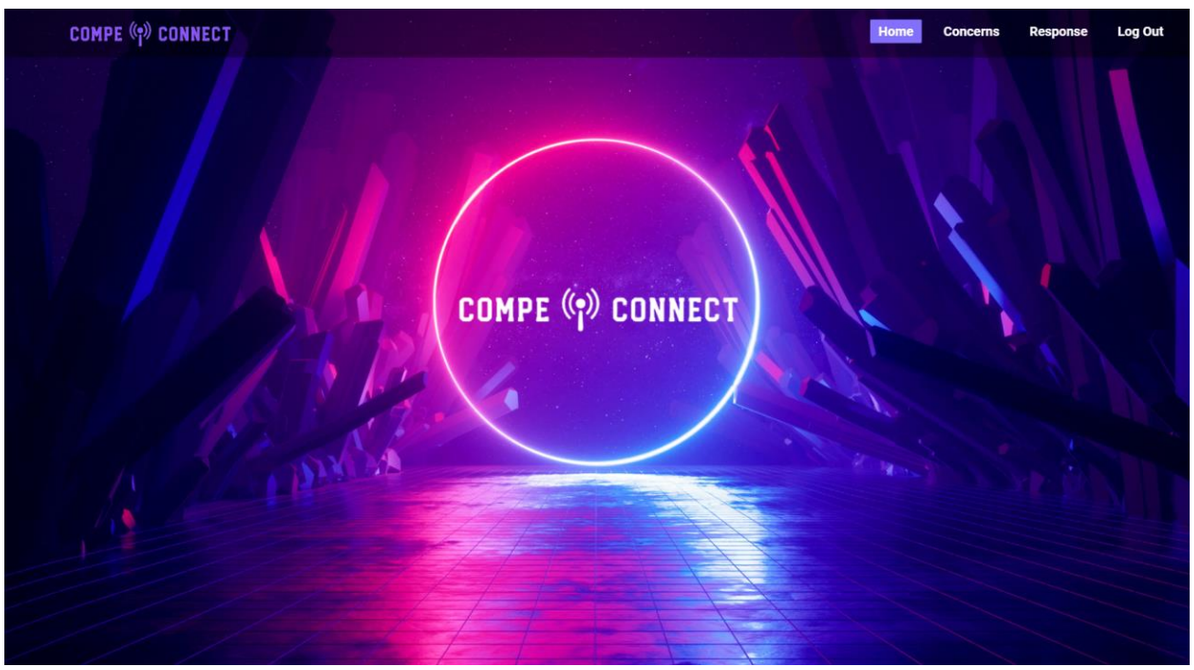

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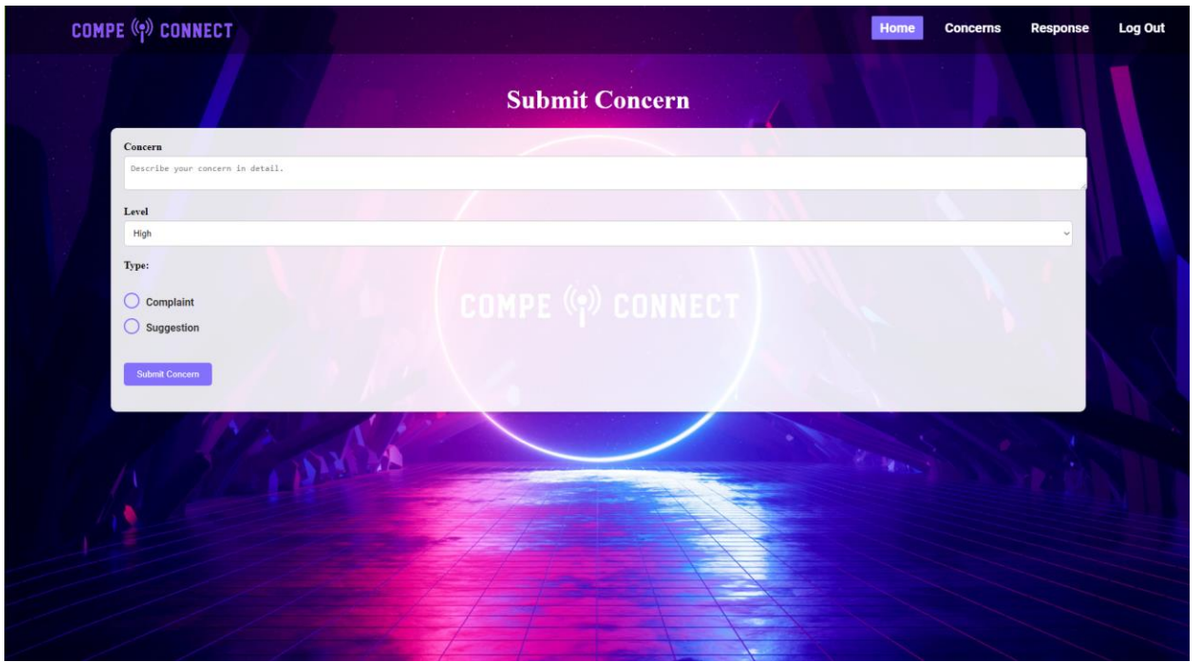


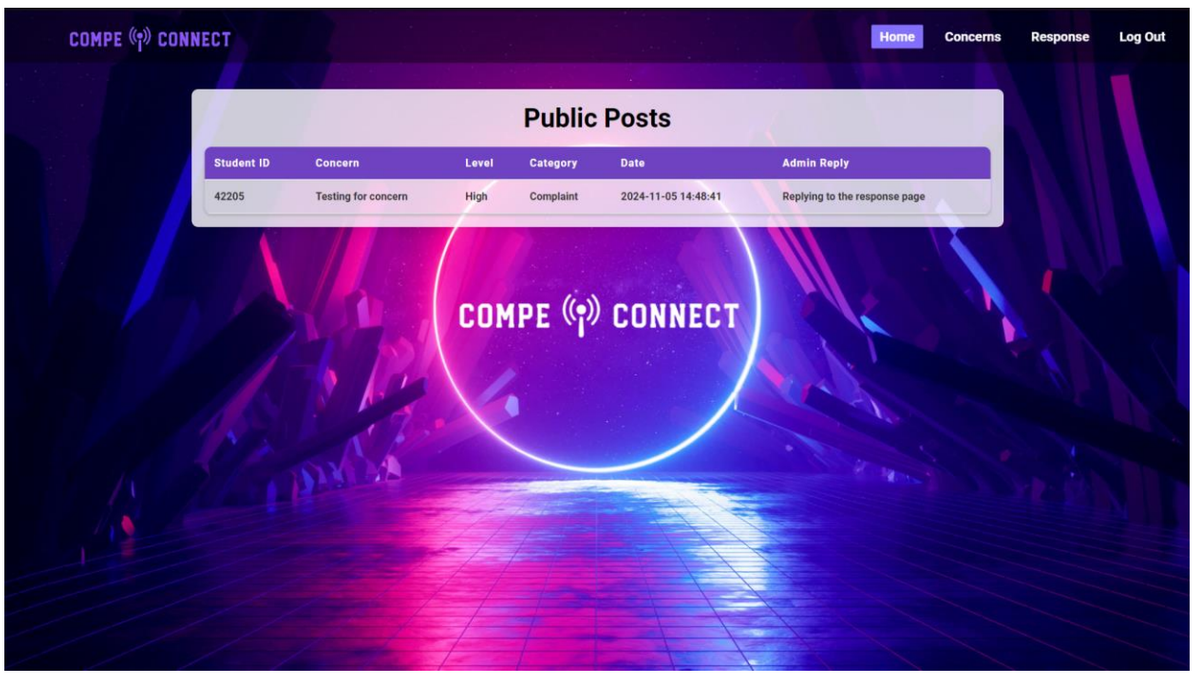

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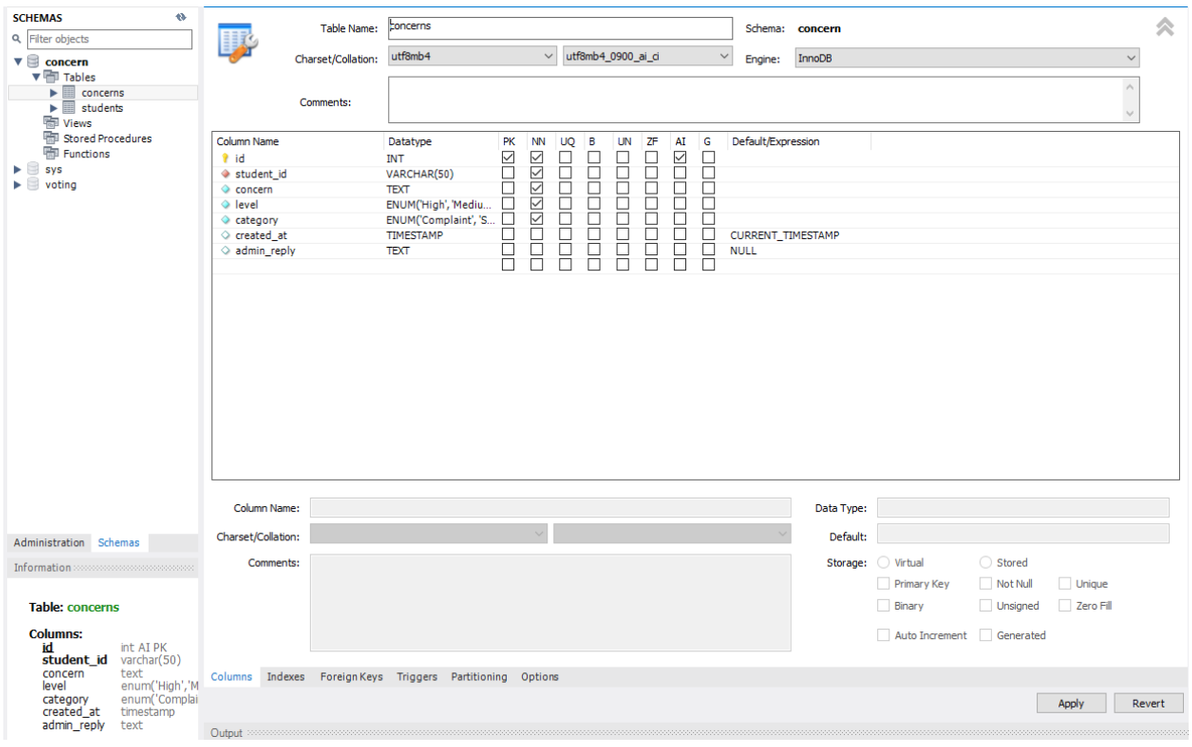
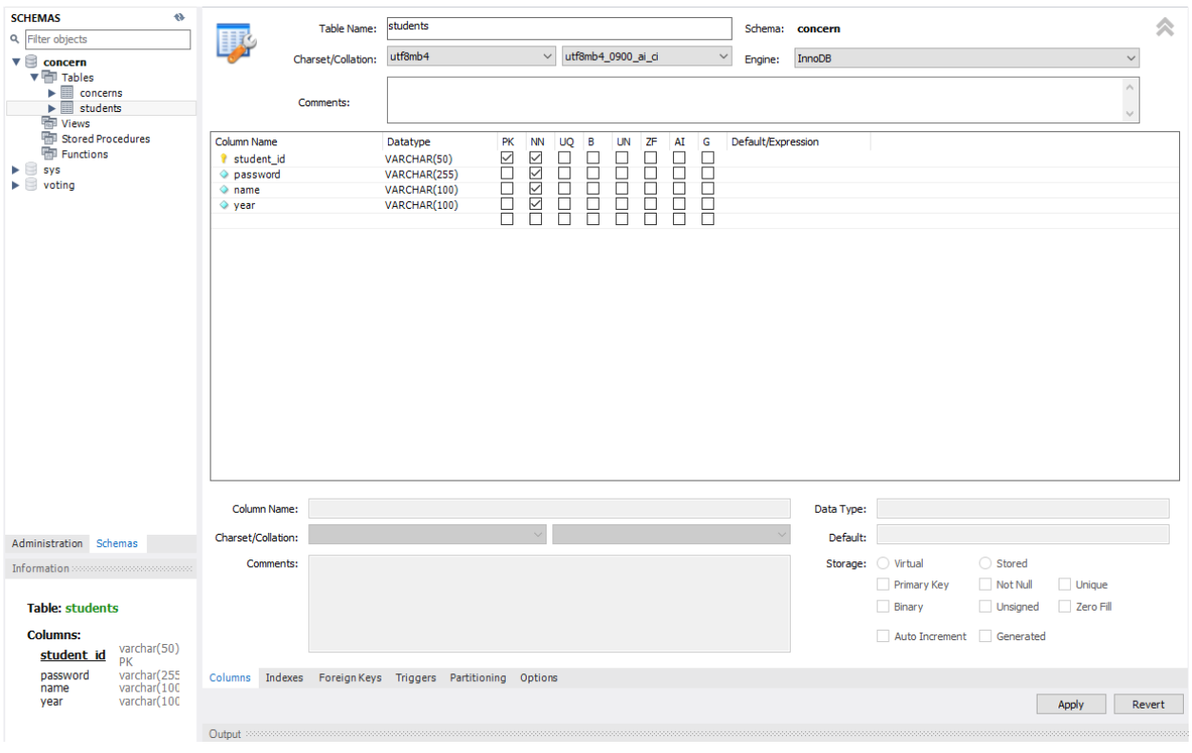
# DATABASE

## List of tables and fields

The database was made on MySQL Workbench and below are the tables and fields used on the project.



## ERD

Below is the ERD used on the project.