# A. Title Page

Lewis University  
CPSC 50900: Database Systems   
Spring 2025 Term Project

Student Performance Tracking System

naseerahmad@lewisu.edu

Work products stored in the Github repository <https://github.com/ahmadnaseer143/Student-Tracking-Database-Course-Project>

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# Schedule of Milestones

Here is a schedule that shows when each milestone is due and what sections comprise it.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Deadline | Sections for which you must demonstrate significant progress |
| February 4 at 11:59pm | a. Title page  b. Initial proposal  c. Data sources  d. Alternative ways to store the data  r. Activity Log – at least six entries covering the first two weeks |
| February 18  at 11:59pm | e. Conceptual and logical models  f. Physical model  g. Populate the database with data  r. Activity Log – at least six entries covering the past two weeks |
| March 4 at 11:59pm | h. Data manipulation language (DML) scripts  i. Indexes  j. Views  l. Transactions  m. Security  r. Activity Log – at least six entries covering the past two weeks |

The remaining sections – Triggers, Locking and Concurrency, Backup, and Programming, will be turned in with the final report, which is due March 16 at 11:59pm.

# B. Initial Proposal

I will describe my proposal by answering the following questions:

**1. What data will we store?**

Our database will store:

* **Students** (Name, ID, age, grade level, contact info)
* **Courses** (Course name, code, instructor, credits)
* **Grades** (Student ID, course code, assignments, grades, GPA)
* **Attendance** (Student ID, course, attendance percentage)
* **Teachers** (Name, employee ID, contact info, assigned courses)
* **Assignments** (Course ID, assignment title, due date, max score)
* **Departments** (Name, head, courses offered)
* **Parents** (Name, contact info, relation to student)

**2. Why are we interested in this data?**

Tracking student performance is crucial for improving education outcomes and providing personalized feedback.

**3. Why is it important?**

This system will help schools and educators identify struggling students, measure success, and allocate resources effectively.

**4. Where will the data come from?**

We will generate simulated student records, use mock data for courses and assignments, and anonymize data from public datasets if available.

**5. Who will use this data?**

* Teachers monitor and analyze performance trends.
* School administrators make informed decisions.
* Parents stay informed about their child’s progress.

**6. What kind of application do we plan to build?**

A **web-based platform** for schools, teachers, and parents to view and manage student academic data, attendance, and reports.

# C. Data Sources

Our student performance tracking system utilizes structured data from various sources, including CSV files, JSON files, and relational database tables. Below are the details of these data sources, including field structures and data organization.

**Data Formats & Sources:**

* **CSV Files:** Used for structured, tabular data such as student records, course details, and attendance.
* **JSON Files:** Used for hierarchical, semi-structured data like grades and assignment submissions.
* **SQL Database:** Stores relational data for optimized querying and indexing.

**Detailed Data Structure:**

1. **Students.csv** (Stores student demographic and academic details)
   * Student\_ID (Integer, Primary Key)
   * Name (String)
   * Age (Integer)
   * Grade\_Level (String)
   * Parent\_Contact\_Info (String)
2. **Courses.csv** (Lists courses offered)
   * Course\_Code (String, Primary Key)
   * Course\_Name (String)
   * Credits (Integer)
   * Instructor (String)
3. **Grades.json** (Tracks student performance in assignments)
   * Student\_ID (Integer, Foreign Key referencing Students)
   * Course\_ID (String, Foreign Key referencing Courses)
   * Assignment\_Title (String)
   * Score (Integer)
4. **Attendance.csv** (Stores attendance records)
   * Student\_ID (Integer, Foreign Key referencing Students)
   * Course\_Code (String, Foreign Key referencing Courses)
   * Attendance\_Percentage (Float)
5. **Assignments.csv** (Details on assignments)
   * Assignment\_ID (Integer, Primary Key)
   * Course\_ID (String, Foreign Key referencing Courses)
   * Title (String)
   * Due\_Date (Date)
   * Max\_Score (Integer)
6. **Teachers.csv** (Information on teachers)
   * Employee\_ID (Integer, Primary Key)
   * Name (String)
   * Contact\_Info (String)
   * Assigned\_Courses (String - List of course codes)

**Fields Selected for the Database:**

Based on these sources, the following fields will be included in our final SQL database:

* **Students Table:** Student\_ID, Name, Age, Grade\_Level, Parent\_Contact\_Info
* **Courses Table:** Course\_Code, Course\_Name, Credits, Instructor
* **Grades Table:** Student\_ID, Course\_ID, Assignment\_Title, Score
* **Attendance Table:** Student\_ID, Course\_Code, Attendance\_Percentage
* **Assignments Table:** Assignment\_ID, Course\_ID, Title, Due\_Date, Max\_Score
* **Teachers Table:** Employee\_ID, Name, Contact\_Info

These structured datasets will ensure accurate student performance tracking while allowing for efficient queries and reports.

# D. Alternative Ways to Store the Data

**1. NoSQL (Document Store – MongoDB)**

* **Implementation:** Store each student’s performance and attendance data as JSON documents.
* **Advantages:** Flexible schema, fast access for large datasets.
* **Disadvantages:** Less optimized for structured queries and relationships.

**2. Graph Database (Neo4j)**

* **Implementation:** Represent students, courses, teachers, and grades as nodes, with relationships as edges.
* **Advantages:** Best for tracking relationships (e.g., student-course-teacher connections).
* **Disadvantages:** More complex to implement for tabular queries.

# E. Conceptual and Logical Models

**Conceptual Model**

The **conceptual model** defines the main entities and their relationships in the **Student Performance Tracking System**. Below are the identified entities and their **connectivity and participation constraints**:

1. Students enroll in multiple Courses (M:N, mandatory for Students, optional for Courses).
   * Courses have multiple enrolled Students (M:N, optional for Courses, mandatory for Students).
2. Courses are taught by Teachers (1:M, mandatory for Courses, optional for Teachers).
   * Teachers teach multiple Courses (1:M, optional for Teachers, mandatory for Courses).
3. Students receive Grades for Assignments in Courses (1:M, mandatory).
   * Grades are assigned to Students for Assignments in Courses (M:1, mandatory).
4. Students have Attendance records for each Course (1:M, mandatory).
   * Attendance records exist for Students in Courses (M:1, mandatory).
5. Courses have multiple Assignments (1:M, mandatory).
   * Assignments belong to a single Course (M:1, mandatory).
6. Departments oversee multiple Courses (1:M, mandatory).
   * Courses are managed by one Department (M:1, mandatory).
7. Parents serve as contacts for multiple Students (1:M, mandatory for Parents, optional for Students).

* Each Student has one Parent who is the primary contact (M:1, optional for Students, mandatory for Parents).

**Entity-Relationship (ER) Diagram**

A diagram of a student

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**Logical Model**

The logical model expands on the conceptual model by specifying attributes, primary keys, and relationships.

**Entities and Attributes**

* 1. Students
* Student\_ID (PK)
* Name
* Age
* Grade\_Level
* Parent\_ID (FK →Parents, Parent\_ID)
  1. Courses
* Course\_Code (PK)
* Course\_Name
* Credits
* Instructor\_ID (FK -> Teachers,Employee\_ID)
  1. Teachers
* **Employee\_ID** (PK)
* Name
* Contact\_Info
  1. Grades
* **Grade\_ID** (PK)
* Student\_ID (FK → Students.Student\_ID)
* Course\_Code (FK → Courses.Course\_Code)
* Assignment\_Title
* Score
  1. Attendance
* **Attendance\_ID** (PK)
* Student\_ID (FK → Students.Student\_ID)
* Course\_Code (FK → Courses.Course\_Code)
* Attendance\_Percentage
  1. Assignments
* Assignment\_ID *(PK)*
* Course\_Code *(FK → Courses.Course\_Code)*
* Title
* Due\_Date
* Max\_Score
  1. Departments
* Department\_ID *(PK)*
* Name
* Head
  1. Parents
* **Parent\_ID** (PK)
* Name
* Contact\_Info
  1. Student\_Course\_Enrollment (Resolving M:N Relationship)
* **Enrollment\_ID** (PK)
* Student\_ID (FK → Students.Student\_ID)
* Course\_Code (FK → Courses.Course\_Code)
* Enrollment\_Date

**Functional Dependencies:**

1. Student\_ID → Name, Age, Grade\_Level, Parent\_ID
2. Course\_Code → Course\_Name, Credits, Instructor
3. Employee\_ID → Name, Contact\_Info
4. Student\_ID, Course\_ID, Assignment\_Title → Score
5. Student\_ID, Course\_Code → Attendance\_Percentage
6. Assignment\_ID → Course\_ID, Title, Due\_Date, Max\_Score
7. Department\_ID → Name, Head
8. Parent\_ID → Name, Contact\_Info
9. Enrollment\_ID → Student\_ID, Course\_Code, Enrollment\_Date

**Normalization Steps:**

1. First Normal Form (1NF) - Ensured that all attributes are atomic (no multi-valued or repeating groups)
2. Second Normal Form (2NF) - Removed partial dependencies by ensuring all attributes depend on the whole primary key (particularly in composite keys).
3. Third Normal Form (3NF) - Eliminated transitive dependencies by splitting related data into separate entities.

Let us see some examples:

**1st Normal Form (1NF) - Eliminate Repeating Groups**

**Problem:**  
A Students table might store multiple courses in a single row:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student\_ID** | **Name** | **Age** | **Courses\_Enrolled** | **Parent\_Contact\_Info** |
| 101 | Alice | 20 | Math, Science | alice\_parent@email.com |
| 102 | Bob | 19 | English, History | bob\_parent@email.com |

**Issues:**

* Multivalued attribute (Courses\_Enrolled contains multiple values in a single column).
* Difficult to query (e.g., finding all students enrolled in "Math" is challenging).

**Solution (1NF Applied):**  
Create a separate Student\_Course\_Enrollment table to store course enrollments as separate rows.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Enrollment\_ID** | **Student\_ID** | **Course\_Code** | **Enrollment\_Date** |
| 1 | 101 | MATH101 | 2024-01-10 |
| 2 | 101 | SCI102 | 2024-01-10 |
| 3 | 102 | ENG103 | 2024-01-12 |
| 4 | 102 | HIST104 | 2024-01-12 |

Now, each piece of data is atomic, and no columns contain multiple values.

**2nd Normal Form (2NF) - Remove Partial Dependencies**

**Problem:**  
A table with a composite primary key (like Student\_ID, Course\_Code) may have attributes that depend on only part of the key instead of the whole key.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student\_ID** | **Course\_Code** | **Course\_Name** | **Credits** | **Enrollment\_Date** |
| 101 | MATH101 | Mathematics | 3 | 2024-01-10 |
| 101 | SCI102 | Science | 4 | 2024-01-10 |
| 102 | ENG103 | English | 3 | 2024-01-12 |

**Issue:**

* Course\_Name and Credits only depend on Course\_Code, not Student\_ID.
* This is a partial dependency (i.e., some attributes do not fully depend on the entire composite key).

**Solution (2NF Applied):**

* Separate Courses into its own table so Course\_Name and Credits depend only on Course\_Code.
* Keep Student\_Course\_Enrollment only for enrollment records.

**Courses Table:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course\_Code** | **Course\_Name** | **Credits** |
| MATH101 | Mathematics | 3 |
| SCI102 | Science | 4 |
| ENG103 | English | 3 |

**Student\_Course\_Enrollment Table (2NF-compliant):**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Enrollment\_ID** | **Student\_ID** | **Course\_Code** | **Enrollment\_Date** |
| 1 | 101 | MATH101 | 2024-01-10 |
| 2 | 101 | SCI102 | 2024-01-10 |
| 3 | 102 | ENG103 | 2024-01-12 |

Now, each non-key attribute fully depends on the entire primary key of its respective table.

**3rd Normal Form (3NF) - Remove Transitive Dependencies**

**Problem:**  
A Grades table might contain an indirect (transitive) dependency where Assignment\_Title determines Max\_Score.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grade\_ID | Student\_ID | Course\_Code | Assignment\_Title | Score | Max\_Score |
| 1 | 101 | MATH101 | Homework 1 | 85 | 100 |
| 2 | 101 | MATH101 | Quiz 1 | 90 | 50 |

**Issue:**

* Max\_Score depends on Assignment\_Title, not Grade\_ID.
* This is a transitive dependency because Grade\_ID → Assignment\_Title → Max\_Score.

**Solution (3NF Applied):**

* Create an Assignments table to store assignment-specific information separately.
* Keep Grades only for student scores.

**Assignments Table:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment\_ID** | **Course\_Code** | **Title** | **Max\_Score** | **Due\_Date** |
| 1 | MATH101 | Homework 1 | 100 | 2024-02-01 |
| 2 | MATH101 | Quiz 1 | 50 | 2024-02-05 |

**Grades Table (3NF-compliant):**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade\_ID** | **Student\_ID** | **Assignment\_ID** | **Score** |
| 1 | 101 | 1 | 85 |
| 2 | 101 | 2 | 90 |

Now, Max\_Score depends only on Assignment\_ID, and we have removed transitive dependencies.

**Final Logical ERD Diagram**

A computer screen shot of a diagram

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

# F. Physical Model

**Final Physical Model ERD**

A diagram of a student course

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**Database Schema and Table Definitions**

*-- Table: Students  
CREATE TABLE Students (  
 Student\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Name VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,  
 Age INT CHECK (Age >= 5 AND Age <= 25),  
 Grade\_Level VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
 Parent\_ID INT,  
 CONSTRAINT Students\_Parents FOREIGN KEY (Parent\_ID) REFERENCES Parents(Parent\_ID)  
);  
  
-- Table: Parents  
CREATE TABLE Parents (  
 Parent\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Name VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,  
 Contact\_Info VARCHAR(255)  
);  
  
-- Table: Teachers  
CREATE TABLE Teachers (  
 Employee\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Name VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,  
 Contact\_Info VARCHAR(255)  
);  
  
-- Table: Departments  
CREATE TABLE Departments (  
 Department\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Name VARCHAR(100) UNIQUE NOT NULL,  
 Head VARCHAR(100)  
);  
  
-- Table: Courses  
CREATE TABLE Courses (  
 Course\_Code VARCHAR(10) PRIMARY KEY,  
 Course\_Name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
 Credits INT CHECK (Credits > 0),  
 Teacher\_ID INT,  
 Department\_ID INT,  
 CONSTRAINT Courses\_Teachers FOREIGN KEY (Teacher\_ID) REFERENCES Teachers(Employee\_ID),  
 CONSTRAINT Courses\_Departments FOREIGN KEY (Department\_ID) REFERENCES Departments(Department\_ID)  
);  
  
-- Table: Assignments  
CREATE TABLE Assignments (  
 Assignment\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Course\_Code VARCHAR(10) NOT NULL,  
 Title VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
 Due\_Date DATE NOT NULL,  
 Max\_Score INT CHECK (Max\_Score > 0),  
 CONSTRAINT Assignments\_Courses FOREIGN KEY (Course\_Code) REFERENCES Courses(Course\_Code)  
);  
  
-- Table: Grades  
CREATE TABLE Grades (  
 Grade\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Student\_ID INT NOT NULL,  
 Assignment\_ID INT NOT NULL,  
 Score DECIMAL(5,2) CHECK (Score BETWEEN 0 AND 100),  
 CONSTRAINT Grades\_Students FOREIGN KEY (Student\_ID) REFERENCES Students(Student\_ID),  
 CONSTRAINT Grades\_Assignments FOREIGN KEY (Assignment\_ID) REFERENCES Assignments(Assignment\_ID)  
);  
  
-- Table: Attendance  
CREATE TABLE Attendance (  
 Attendance\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Student\_ID INT NOT NULL,  
 Course\_Code VARCHAR(10) NOT NULL,  
 Attendance\_Percentage DECIMAL(5,2) CHECK (Attendance\_Percentage BETWEEN 0 AND 100),  
 CONSTRAINT Attendance\_Students FOREIGN KEY (Student\_ID) REFERENCES Students(Student\_ID),  
 CONSTRAINT Attendance\_Courses FOREIGN KEY (Course\_Code) REFERENCES Courses(Course\_Code)  
);  
  
-- Table: Student\_Course\_Enrollment  
CREATE TABLE Student\_Course\_Enrollment (  
 Enrollment\_ID INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
 Student\_ID INT NOT NULL,  
 Course\_Code VARCHAR(10) NOT NULL,  
 Enrollment\_Date TIMESTAMP DEFAULT CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP,  
 CONSTRAINT Student\_Course\_Enrollment\_Students FOREIGN KEY (Student\_ID) REFERENCES Students(Student\_ID),  
 CONSTRAINT Student\_Course\_Enrollment\_Courses FOREIGN KEY (Course\_Code) REFERENCES Courses(Course\_Code)  
);*

## SQL Execution Proof

### Creating the Database:

CREATE DATABASE StudentPerformanceDB;

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USE StudentPerformanceDB;

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Running the SHOW DATABASES; command to verify database creation

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Running the SHOW TABLES; command to confirm table creation

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Running DESCRIBE on key tables to verify structures

DESC Students;

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DESC Courses;

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DESC Grades;

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# G. Populate the database with data

After designing and implementing the database schema in MySQL, the next step is to populate it with relevant data. This involved transforming raw datasets into SQL INSERT statements. Below is a step-by-step explanation of how the data was generated, cleaned, and inserted into the database.

**Step 1: Data Acquisition**

The data for this project was sourced and generated in the following ways:  
- Students, Courses, and Grades Data: Downloaded from Kaggle.  
- Data Cleaning: Processed using Python scripts to remove duplicates, handle missing values, and ensure consistency.  
- Other Data (Teachers, Assignments, Attendance, Parents, etc.): Randomly generated using Python scripts.

**Step 2: Data Cleaning and Transformation**

To clean and prepare the data:  
- Used Pandas to load and process CSV files.  
- Handled missing values by either imputing reasonable defaults or removing incomplete records.  
- Converted data types to match the MySQL schema.  
- Ensured referential integrity between tables (e.g., valid Student\_IDs in Grades matched those in Students).

**Step 3: Converting CSV Data to SQL INSERT Statements**

For each table, we used Python scripts to read CSV files and generate INSERT statements.

**Python Script to Convert CSV to SQL INSERT Statements**

For each table, the following general script structure was used:

import pandas as pd

# Load CSV file (update file name for different tables)

df = pd.read\_csv("Processed\_Students.csv")

# Generate SQL INSERT statements

table\_name = "Students"

insert\_statements = []

for \_, row in df.iterrows():

values = tuple(row)

query = f"INSERT INTO {table\_name} VALUES {values};"

insert\_statements.append(query)

# Save SQL queries to a file

with open(f"{table\_name}\_inserts.sql", "w") as file:

file.write("\n".join(insert\_statements))

print(f"SQL INSERT statements saved for {table\_name}!")

**Step 4: Running Sql Scripts to populate the database**

After generating the insert statements, they were executed using the MySQL **source** command. First, we logged into mysql and then selected the required database. After that we ran the source command.

mysql -u root -p

USE studentperformancedb;

**Using mysql source command**

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Students\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Teachers\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Courses\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Grades\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Attendance\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Parents\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Assignments\_inserts.sql;

SOURCE path\_to\_file/Student\_Course\_Enrollment\_inserts.sql;

**Step 5: Verifying Data insertion**

To confirm that the data was correctly inserted, SELECT queries were executed.

SELECT \* FROM Students LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Teachers LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Courses LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Grades LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Attendance LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Parents LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Assignments LIMIT 5;

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SELECT \* FROM Departments;

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SELECT \* FROM Student\_Course\_Enrollment LIMIT 5;

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# H. Data Manipulation Language (DML) Scripts

1. Insert Statements

INSERT INTO Students (Student\_ID, Name, Age, Grade\_Level, Parent\_ID) VALUES (307, 'Naseer', 25, 'Senior', 101);

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INSERT INTO Courses (Course\_Code, Course\_Name, Credits, Teachers\_ID, Department\_ID) VALUES ('AI101', 'Introduction to AI', 3, 2, 1);

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1. Update Statements

update students set age=22 where student\_id=307;

update courses set course\_name='Intro to Ai2' where course\_code='Ai101';

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1. Delete Statement

DELETE FROM Students WHERE Student\_ID = 307;

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1. Simple Select Statement

SELECT Name, Age, Grade\_Level FROM Students WHERE Age > 24;

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1. Join Statements

SELECT Students.Name, Courses.Course\_Name FROM Students JOIN Student\_Course\_Enrollment ON Students.Student\_ID = Student\_Course\_Enrollment.Student\_ID JOIN Courses ON Student\_Course\_Enrollment.Course\_Code = Courses.Course\_Code;

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SELECT Assignments.Title, Grades.Score FROM Assignments JOIN Grades ON Assignments.Assignment\_ID = Grades.Assignment\_ID;

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1. Summary Functions

SELECT AVG(Score) AS Average\_Score FROM Grades;

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SELECT COUNT(Student\_ID) AS Total\_Students FROM Students;

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1. Multi-Table Query

SELECT Students.Name, Courses.Course\_Name, Teachers.Name AS Teacher\_Name FROM Students JOIN Student\_Course\_Enrollment ON Students.Student\_ID = Student\_Course\_Enrollment.Student\_ID JOIN Courses ON Student\_Course\_Enrollment.Course\_Code = Courses.Course\_Code JOIN Teachers ON Courses.Teachers\_ID = Teachers.Employee\_ID;

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1. Custom Query

SELECT Departments.Name AS Department\_Name, COUNT(Courses.Course\_Code) AS Number\_of\_Courses FROM Departments LEFT JOIN Courses ON Departments.Department\_ID = Courses.Department\_ID GROUP BY Departments.Name;

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# I. Indexes

Indexes are a critical component in database optimization, as it will enhance query performance by allowing faster data retrieval. Below are three indexes added to our database schema, along with explanations of why they were chosen.

**Index on Students (Student\_ID)**

Since Student\_ID is frequently used as a foreign key in multiple tables (e.g., Grades, Attendance, Student\_Course\_Enrollment), indexing it improves join performance and lookup efficiency.

SQL Command:

CREATE INDEX idx\_students\_student\_id ON Students(Student\_ID);

**Index on Courses (Course\_Code)**

The Course\_Code is heavily used in joins with the Assignments, Attendance, and Student\_Course\_Enrollment tables. Indexing it will speed up queries filtering by or joining on Course\_Code.

SQL Command:

CREATE INDEX idx\_courses\_course\_code ON Courses(Course\_Code);

**Index on Grades (Assignment\_ID, Student\_ID)**

Queries often filter by both Assignment\_ID and Student\_ID when retrieving grades. A composite index on these columns improves performance by allowing the database to efficiently locate relevant records.

SQL Command:

CREATE INDEX idx\_grades\_assignment\_student ON Grades(Assignment\_ID, Student\_ID);

**Performance Improvement**

To measure the impact of these indexes, we can follow these steps:

* **Run EXPLAIN ANALYZE Before and After**

We will execute queries without indexes and use EXPLAIN ANALYZE to review execution time.  
Apply indexes and run the same queries again, comparing the performance.

* **Measure Query Execution Time**

We will use a SQL profiling tool to log execution times before and after indexing.  
Queries that previously required full table scans should show reduced execution time.

* **Monitor Database Statistics**

We will use MySQL’s SHOW INDEX FROM table\_name to verify index usage.

# J. Views

**Database Views**

1. View 1: Student Grades Overview

SQL to Create the View:

CREATE VIEW Student\_Grades\_View AS

SELECT s.Student\_ID, s.Name AS Student\_Name, c.Course\_Name, a.Title AS Assignment\_Title, g.Score

FROM Students s

JOIN Grades g ON s.Student\_ID = g.Student\_ID

JOIN Assignments a ON g.Assignment\_ID = a.Assignment\_ID

JOIN Courses c ON a.Course\_Code = c.Course\_Code;

Why This View is Valuable:

- This view provides an easy way to retrieve student grades along with assignment and course details.

- Useful for teachers and administrators to analyze student performance efficiently.

- Simplifies complex joins when accessing student grade data.

1. View 2: Course Enrollment Summary

SQL to Create the View:

CREATE VIEW Course\_Enrollment\_View AS

SELECT c.Course\_Code, c.Course\_Name, COUNT(sce.Student\_ID) AS Total\_Students

FROM Courses c

JOIN Student\_Course\_Enrollment sce ON c.Course\_Code = sce.Course\_Code

GROUP BY c.Course\_Code, c.Course\_Name;

Why This View is Valuable:

- Provides a quick summary of student enrollment per course.

- Helps department heads and administrators track course popularity and student distribution.

- Reduces the need for complex aggregate queries when checking course enrollment numbers.

**Screenshots of Views:**

SELECT \* FROM Student\_Grades\_View;

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SELECT \* FROM Course\_Enrollment\_View;

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# K. Stored Programs (Stored Procedures, Stored Functions, Triggers)

In the Student Performance Tracking System, it's essential to calculate a student's average grade efficiently. Instead of performing a manual AVG() query every time, we create a stored function that returns the average score for a given student.

**SQL Code for the Stored Function**

DELIMITER //

CREATE FUNCTION GetStudentAverage(StudentID INT)

RETURNS DECIMAL(5,2)

DETERMINISTIC

BEGIN

DECLARE avg\_score DECIMAL(5,2);

SELECT AVG(Score) INTO avg\_score

FROM Grades

WHERE Student\_ID = StudentID;

RETURN avg\_score;

END //

DELIMITER ;

**Purpose & Benefits:**

* This function **calculates and returns** the **average score** of a student across all assignments.
* It eliminates the need to repeatedly write **AVG() queries**, making it easier for teachers, students, and parents to retrieve this data.
* Since it is **deterministic**, it will always return the same output for the same input, improving performance.

**How It Works:**

* It **takes a Student\_ID** as an input parameter.
* It calculates the **average score** by selecting all the grades for that student from the **Grades table**.
* The result is returned as a **decimal (5,2)** value, ensuring precision.

**Demonstration with Screenshots**

**Step 1: Calling the Function**

To test if the function works correctly, run:

SELECT GetStudentAverage(20);

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**Step 2: Testing with Another Student**

SELECT GetStudentAverage(102);

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**Step 3: Edge Case (No Grades Available)**

SELECT GetStudentAverage(901);

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# L. Transactions

**Importance of Transactions in Ensuring ACID Behavior**

Transactions are essential in database management as they ensure the **ACID** (Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability) properties, which maintain data integrity and reliability. Here’s how transactions support each ACID principle:

* **Atomicity**: Ensures that all operations within a transaction are completed successfully. If any part fails, the entire transaction is rolled back, preventing partial updates.
* **Consistency**: Guarantees that a transaction brings the database from one valid state to another, maintaining all integrity constraints.
* **Isolation**: Prevents concurrent transactions from interfering with each other, ensuring that intermediate transaction states are not visible to other operations.
* **Durability**: Once a transaction is committed, the changes are permanently saved to the database, even in the case of a system failure.

By using transactions, databases prevent data corruption, avoid lost updates, and ensure reliable operations.

**Demonstrating a MySQL Transaction**

**MySQL Transaction SQL Example:**

START TRANSACTION;

-- Insert a new student

INSERT INTO Students (Student\_ID, Name, Age, Grade\_Level, Parent\_ID)

VALUES (101, 'John Doe', 15, '10th Grade', 5);

-- Enroll the student in a course

INSERT INTO Student\_Course\_Enrollment (Enrollment\_ID, Enrollment\_Date, Course\_Code, Student\_ID)

VALUES (201, '2025-02-25', 'MATH101', 101);

-- Commit the transaction

COMMIT;

**Explanation:**

1. **START TRANSACTION;** begins the transaction.
2. **INSERT statements** add a student and enroll them in a course.
3. **COMMIT;** finalizes the changes, ensuring they are saved permanently.

If any of these operations fail, a ROLLBACK; command could be used to undo all changes, preserving data integrity.

**Screenshot of MySQL Transaction Execution**

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By using transactions, we ensure that student enrollment occurs only if both insertions succeed, preventing inconsistent states where a student is registered without an associated enrollment.

# M. Database Security

**User Roles and Privileges**

In the **Student Performance Tracking System**, different users require different levels of access to ensure security and efficient database management. Below are the key user roles and their corresponding privileges:

1. **Administrator** (Full Access)
   * Manages all aspects of the database, including user management, data modification, and system maintenance.
   * **Privileges:** ALL PRIVILEGES on all tables.
2. **Teachers** (Limited Access)
   * Can update grades, assignments, and attendance but cannot modify student personal details.
   * **Privileges:** INSERT, UPDATE, SELECT on **Grades, Assignments, Attendance** tables.
3. **Students** (Read-Only Access)
   * Can only view their grades and attendance records.
   * **Privileges:** SELECT on **Grades, Attendance** (restricted to their own data).
4. **Parents** (Limited Read-Only Access)
   * Can view their child’s academic progress and attendance but cannot modify any data.
   * **Privileges:** SELECT on **Grades, Attendance** (restricted to their child's data).

Now before granting different users different privileges we need to make these users. The following screenshot demonstrates creating different users:

CREATE USER 'teacher\_user'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password123';

CREATE USER 'student\_user'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password123';

CREATE USER 'parent\_user'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password123';

CREATE USER 'admin\_user'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password123';

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**GRANT Statements**

1. **Granting Full Access to Administrator**

GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON studentperformancedb.\* TO 'admin\_user'@'localhost' WITH GRANT OPTION;

1. **Granting Privileges to Teachers**

GRANT INSERT, UPDATE, SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Grades TO 'teacher\_user'@'localhost';

GRANT INSERT, UPDATE, SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Assignments TO 'teacher\_user'@'localhost';

GRANT INSERT, UPDATE, SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Attendance TO 'teacher\_user'@'localhost';

1. **Granting Read-Only Access to Students**

GRANT SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Grades TO 'student\_user'@'localhost';

GRANT SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Attendance TO 'student\_user'@'localhost';

1. **Granting Read-Only Access to Parents**

GRANT SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Grades TO 'parent\_user'@'localhost';

GRANT SELECT ON studentperformancedb.Attendance TO 'parent\_user'@'localhost';

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**Demonstrating Privileges with Screenshots**

SHOW GRANTS FOR 'teacher\_user'@'localhost';

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SHOW GRANTS FOR 'student\_user'@'localhost';

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SHOW GRANTS FOR 'parent\_user'@'localhost';

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SHOW GRANTS FOR 'admin\_user'@'localhost';

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# N. Locking and Concurrent Access

Locking is crucial in MySQL to prevent data inconsistencies and race conditions when multiple users access the same data concurrently. If two or more transactions try to update or read data simultaneously, without proper locking, it can lead to inaccurate reports, stale data, or even corrupt records.

**Example: Why is Locking Needed?**

Consider a scenario where two teachers are updating and reading student grades at the same time:

1. **Teacher A** is updating a student's grade from **85 to 90**.
2. **Teacher B** queries the grades at the same time, but before the update completes.
3. **Without locking**, Teacher B might retrieve the **old score (85)** instead of the **updated score (90)**, causing inconsistency.
4. Using **table locking**, we ensure that Teacher B reads the updated score only after Teacher A completes the modification.

**Implementing Table Locking in MySQL**

**1. Locking the Grades Table for Updates**

To prevent inconsistencies, we lock the table before making changes:

LOCK TABLES Grades WRITE;

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This ensures that only **one transaction** can modify the Grades table at a time.

**2. Updating a Student's Grade**

Once the table is locked, we update the student's grade:

UPDATE Grades

SET Score = 95

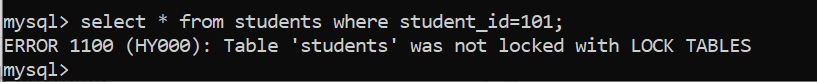
WHERE Student\_ID = 14 AND Assignment\_ID = 1;

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**3. Unlocking the Table**

After completing the update, we unlock the table to allow other users to access it. Otherwise any queries on it would not work:



UNLOCK TABLES;

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This releases the lock and allows concurrent users to read or modify data.

# O. Backing Up Your Database

Ensuring regular backups of the Student Performance Tracking System database is crucial to prevent data loss and maintain data integrity. The backup strategy includes four key components: frequency, automation, storage location, and security.

**Backup Strategy**

**1. Frequency of Backups**

To minimize data loss, we will implement the following backup schedule:

* **Full backups**: Taken **daily at midnight** to ensure all data is stored.
* **Incremental backups**: Taken **every 6 hours** to capture recent changes.
* **Weekly archive backups**: Stored on an external storage service (e.g., AWS S3 or Google Drive).

**2. Backup Command for MySQL**

To manually back up the database, the following **mysqldump** command is used:

mysqldump -u root -p studentperformancedb > C:\backups\studentperformancedb\_backup.sql

* mysqldump: Exports the MySQL database.
* -u root -p: Uses the root user (you will be prompted for a password).
* studentperformancedb: Specifies the database name.
* > C:\backups\studentperformancedb\_backup.sql: Saves the backup file to the **C:\backups** directory.

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To verify the backup was successful, we can open the .sql file and check that it contains CREATE TABLE and INSERT INTO statements.

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**3. Automating the Backup Process**

To automate backups, we use a **Windows Task Scheduler (for Windows)** or **Cron Job (for Linux/macOS)** to run the backup script at the scheduled times.

**Windows Automation (Task Scheduler)**

1. Open **Task Scheduler** → **Create Basic Task**.
2. Set a schedule (**daily at midnight, every 6 hours for incremental**).
3. Choose **"Start a Program"** and enter the following command:

C:\Program Files\MySQL\MySQL Server 9.2\bin\mysqldump.exe -u root -p studentperformancedb > C:\backups\studentperformancedb\_backup.sql

1. Click **Finish** to enable automatic backups.

**Linux/macOS Automation (Cron Job)**

For Linux users, add the following to crontab (crontab -e) to run a backup every 6 hours:

0 \*/6 \* \* \* mysqldump -u root -p studentperformancedb > /home/user/backups/studentperformancedb\_backup\_$(date +\%F).sql

**4. Where the Backups Will Be Stored**

Backups will be stored in multiple locations to ensure redundancy:

* **Local Storage:** Backups will be saved to C:\backups (Windows) or /home/user/backups (Linux/macOS).
* **Cloud Storage:** Weekly backups will be uploaded to **Google Drive, AWS S3, or Dropbox**.
* **External Storage:** An external hard drive will store **monthly backups** as an extra precaution.

**5. Security Measures for Backups**

To protect backup data from unauthorized access:

* **Encrypt backups** before storing them using **OpenSSL**:

openssl enc -aes-256-cbc -salt -in studentperformancedb\_backup.sql -out studentperformancedb\_backup.sql.enc -k YOUR\_SECRET\_KEY

* **Restrict access**: Only the **database administrator** will have access to backups.
* **Secure cloud storage**: Using **AWS S3 bucket encryption** and private access policies.
* **Enable automatic deletion**: Older backups (more than **30 days old**) will be **deleted automatically** to save space.

By implementing this comprehensive backup strategy, the Student Performance Tracking System database will remain protected from data loss, ensuring data availability and security. Automating the backups and storing them in multiple secure locations guarantees the reliability of the system.

# P. Programming

In this section we will include a Python script that connects to the Student Performance Database, queries student grades, and generates a report that displays the data on the screen and saves it to a file.

**Python Script: Retrieve Student Grades**

Before running this script, we must install MySQL connector with the following command:

*pip install mysql-connector-python*

Below is the Python script that:

1. Connects to the MySQL database.
2. Queries student grades from the Grades table.
3. Displays the results on the screen.
4. Saves the results to a text file.

*import mysql.connector*

*# Database connection details*

*DB\_HOST = "localhost"*

*DB\_USER = "root"*

*DB\_PASSWORD = "password"*

*DB\_NAME = "studentperformancedb"*

*try:*

*# Step 1: Connect to the MySQL database*

*connection = mysql.connector.connect(*

*host=DB\_HOST,*

*user=DB\_USER,*

*password=DB\_PASSWORD,*

*database=DB\_NAME*

*)*

*if connection.is\_connected():*

*print("Connected to the database successfully!")*

*# Step 2: Create a cursor object to execute queries*

*cursor = connection.cursor()*

*# Step 3: SQL query to fetch student grades*

*query = """*

*SELECT Students.Student\_ID, Students.Name, Grades.Assignment\_Title, Grades.Score*

*FROM Students*

*INNER JOIN Grades ON Students.Student\_ID = Grades.Student\_ID*

*ORDER BY Students.Student\_ID;*

*"""*

*cursor.execute(query)*

*# Step 4: Fetch all results*

*results = cursor.fetchall()*

*# Step 5: Display results on the screen*

*print("\nStudent Grades Report:")*

*print("=" \* 50)*

*for row in results:*

*student\_id, student\_name, assignment\_title, score = row*

*print(f"ID: {student\_id}, Name: {student\_name}, Assignment: {assignment\_title}, Score: {score}")*

*# Step 6: Save the results to a text file*

*with open("student\_grades\_report.txt", "w") as file:*

*file.write("Student Grades Report\n")*

*file.write("=" \* 50 + "\n")*

*for row in results:*

*file.write(f"ID: {row[0]}, Name: {row[1]}, Assignment: {row[2]}, Score: {row[3]}\n")*

*print("\nReport saved as 'student\_grades\_report.txt'.")*

*except mysql.connector.Error as error:*

*print("Error connecting to MySQL:", error)*

*finally:*

*# Step 7: Close the database connection*

*if connection.is\_connected():*

*cursor.close()*

*connection.close()*

*print("Database connection closed.")*

When I run this script we got the following output:  
A screenshot of a computer

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Below is the screenshot of the txt file that was generated for the students grades report:  
A screenshot of a computer

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# Q. Suggested Future Work

**Limitations of the Current Database**

Despite its well-structured design, the Student Performance Tracking System database has some limitations:

1. Scalability Issues – As the number of students, teachers, and courses grows, queries on large tables (such as Grades, Attendance, and Assignments) may slow down.
2. Data Redundancy – Some relationships, such as Student\_Course\_Enrollment, could be optimized further to reduce redundancy.
3. Limited Analytics Capabilities – The current schema does not include pre-aggregated data for reporting, which could impact performance when generating large reports.
4. Lack of Real-Time Updates – There is no mechanism to notify students, teachers, or parents when grades or attendance records are updated.

**Addressing These Shortcomings**

To improve the database, the following modifications could be made:

* Indexing and Query Optimization: Adding indexes to frequently queried columns (e.g., Student\_ID, Course\_Code) to enhance query performance.
* Data Normalization and Optimization: Optimizing table structures by reducing unnecessary joins or merging tables where appropriate.
* Trigger-Based Notifications: Implementing triggers or event-driven messaging systems to notify students/parents when new grades are available.
* Batch Processing for Reports: Implementing materialized views or scheduled queries to precompute student performance analytics, reducing computation time.

**Leveraging Cloud Services for Performance & Availability**

Migrating the database to a cloud-based infrastructure like Amazon RDS, Google Cloud SQL, or Microsoft Azure SQL Database offers multiple advantages:

* High Availability & Reliability: Cloud databases provide automatic failover and replication to prevent downtime.
* Scalability: Cloud solutions allow for horizontal scaling (adding more database instances) and vertical scaling (upgrading existing instances).
* Automated Backups & Security: Cloud platforms offer built-in encryption, backup automation, and disaster recovery solutions.
* Global Accessibility: Users can securely access the database from anywhere, making it easier for teachers, students, and parents to interact with real-time data.

**Advantages & Disadvantages of NoSQL (Document-Based Storage)**

Migrating to a NoSQL database, such as MongoDB, could offer both benefits and drawbacks:

**Advantages:**

**Flexibility:** NoSQL allows storing student records in JSON-like documents, making it easy to handle dynamic fields (e.g., optional attendance comments).  
**Faster Reads for Some Queries:** NoSQL databases can retrieve entire student records in a single query instead of using complex joins.  
**Easier Scalability:** NoSQL databases support horizontal scaling better than relational databases.

**Disadvantages:**

**Lack of ACID Transactions:** NoSQL databases do not always guarantee full data consistency (which is critical for grades and attendance).  
**Complex Queries:** SQL is better suited for handling complex joins and structured relationships, which are essential for student-course mappings.  
**Higher Learning Curve:** Transitioning to a NoSQL model would require rethinking how data relationships are handled.

While NoSQL databases can offer scalability and flexibility, a hybrid approach—where critical structured data (e.g., Grades, Attendance) remains in SQL and less-structured data (e.g., student feedback) is stored in NoSQL—could be the best solution.

# R. Activity Log

**Week 1:**

* Finalized the project topic: **Student Performance Tracking System**.
* Conducted research on student performance tracking systems to understand key database requirements.
* Created a list of data entities such as Students, Courses, Grades, Attendance, Teachers, and Assignments.

**Week 2:**

* Collected sample datasets for Students and Courses to analyze data structure requirements.
* Identified potential data sources for student records, course details, and attendance tracking.
* Updated sections A, B, C, D and R in the project report.

**Week 3:**

* Developed and finalized the Conceptual and Logical Models, including detailed entity relationships and normalization steps.
* Created ER diagrams for conceptual, logical and physical models.
* Designed the MySQL physical schema, defining table structures, keys, and constraints.
* Completed the E and F section in the document.

**Week 4:**

* Populated the database by generating and executing SQL INSERT statements from cleaned CSV data.
* Utilized Python scripts to generate data for Students, Teachers, Courses, Grades, Attendance, Parents, Assignments, and Student-Course Enrollment.
* Verified data integrity by running SELECT queries in MySQL and updated the GitHub repository with the final scripts and documentation.
* Completed the G and update the R section in the document.

**Week 5:**

* Developed and executed Data Manipulation Language (DML) scripts to insert, update, and delete records in the database.
* Implemented indexes to improve query performance and optimize database efficiency.
* Created database views to simplify data access and improve query readability.
* Completed sections H, I, and J in the project document.
* Updated the GitHub repository with the latest SQL scripts and documentation.

**Week 6:**

* Implemented database transactions to ensure data consistency and demonstrate ACID compliance.
* Designed and applied security measures, including user roles and privileges, to restrict access to database operations.
* Wrote and executed GRANT statements to define different user privileges within the system.
* Completed sections L and M in the project document.
* Updated the GitHub repository with transaction and security implementation scripts.
* Updated the R section to reflect the progress of Weeks 5 and 6.

**Week 7:**

* Implemented locking and concurrent access control mechanisms to prevent data conflicts.
* Wrote and tested MySQL LOCK TABLES and UNLOCK TABLES commands to demonstrate concurrent access management.
* Designed and executed backup strategies, including full and incremental backups using mysqldump.
* Automated the backup process using Windows Task Scheduler and Linux cron jobs.
* Completed sections **N (Locking and Concurrent Access)** and **O (Backing Up Your Database)** in the project document.
* Updated GitHub repository with SQL scripts and backup strategies.

**Week 8:**

* Developed a Python script to interact with the database, retrieve student grades, and generate reports.
* Used mysql-connector-python to establish a connection and perform SQL queries programmatically.
* Implemented error handling and connection closing mechanisms for secure database interactions.
* Suggested future improvements, including indexing optimizations, real-time notifications, and NoSQL integration.
* Completed sections **P (Programming)** and **Q (Suggested Future Work)** in the project document.
* Updated the final GitHub repository with Python scripts and documentation.
* Updated section R.