

Milestone 3: API Design

Game Description

UNO is a turn-based card game where players play cards from their hands by matching the last played card by color or value, or by playing wild cards that set a color. The first player to run out of cards in their hand wins. Our application will manage this game for 2-4 players in real-time.

1. Authentication & User Endpoints

Endpoint: Create User

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/users/register
- **Purpose:** Creates a new user account.
- **Authorization:** Public (no authentication required).
- **Request Body:**

```
{  "email": "user@example.com",  "username": "new_user",  "password": "a_strong_password"}
```
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Validate email is a valid format.
 2. Validate username is not null (min 3 chars).
 3. Validate password is not null (min 8 chars).
 4. Query database to check if email already exists.
 5. Query database to check if username already exists.
- **State Updates:**
 1. Generate a salt and hash the password.
 2. INSERT a new record into the users table.
- **Success Response:** 201 Created

```
{  "id": 1,  "email": "user@example.com",  "username": "new_user",  "created_at": "...",  "token": "your_jwt_token_here"}
```

- **Error Cases:**
 - 400 Bad Request: Invalid email format or password too short.
 - 409 Conflict: Email or username already exists.
- **Socket.io Events:** None.

Endpoint: Login User

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/users/login
- **Purpose:** Authenticates a user and returns a session token.
- **Authorization:** Public.
- **Request Body:**

```
{
  "username": "new_user",
  "password": "a_strong_password"
}
```
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Query database to find user by username.
 2. If user exists, compare the provided password with the stored hash.
- **State Updates:** None. (A session token is generated, but no DB state change).
- **Success Response:** 200 OK


```
{
  "id": 1,
  "email": "user@example.com",
  "username": "new_user",
  "token": "your_jwt_token_here"
}
```
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: Password does not match.
 - 404 Not Found: User with that username does not exist.
- **Socket.io Events:** None.

2. Game Management Endpoints

Endpoint: Create Game

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/games
- **Purpose:** Creates a new game lobby. The creator becomes the host.
- **Authorization:** User must be authenticated (token required).
- **Request Body:** None. (Host user_id is taken from the auth token).

- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Validate user is logged in.
- **State Updates:**
 1. INSERT a new record into games table with:
 - status: false (lobby state)
 - player_turn: null
 - is_clockwise: true
 - last_card_played: null
 2. INSERT a new record into game_users with:
 - game_id: The new game's ID.
 - user_id: The host's user ID (from token).
 - is_host: true
 - turn_order: 1
- **Success Response:** 201 Created (Returns the new game object)

```
{
  "id": 123,
  "status": false,
  "is_clockwise": true,
  "player_turn": null,
  "last_card_played": null,
  "created_at": "..."}

```
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: User is not logged in.
- **Socket.io Events:** None. (The client that just created the game will be responsible for joining its room).

Endpoint: Join Game

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/games/{game_id}/join
- **Purpose:** Adds the authenticated user to an existing game lobby.
- **Authorization:** User must be authenticated.
- **Request Body:** None.
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists in games table.
 2. Check games.status is false (game is still a lobby).
 3. Check if user is already in this game (query game_users).
 4. Count players in game_users for this game_id. If >= 4, reject.
- **State Updates:**
 1. Get MAX(turn_order) for this game_id from game_users.
 2. INSERT a new record into game_users with:

- game_id: game_id from URL.
 - user_id: User's ID (from token).
 - is_host: false
 - turn_order: MAX(turn_order) + 1
- **Success Response:** 200 OK


```
{
  "game_id": 123,
  "user_id": 2,
  "turn_order": 2,
  "is_host": false
}
```
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: User not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: Game is full (≥ 4 players) or has already started (status is true).
 - 404 Not Found: game_id does not exist.
 - 409 Conflict: User is already in this game.
- **Socket.io Events:**
 - game:player:joined -> All players in the game room.
 - **Data:** { "user_id": 2, "username": "player_2", "turn_order": 2 }

Endpoint: Start Game

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/games/{game_id}/start
- **Purpose:** Initializes the game. Deals cards and sets the first turn.
- **Authorization:** User must be authenticated AND is_host in game_users.
- **Request Body:** None.
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists.
 2. Check if user is the host for this game.
 3. Check games.status is false (game is not already started).
 4. Count players in game_users. Must be between 2 and 4.
- **State Updates:**
 1. Shuffle deck (logic in server, not DB).
 2. For each player in game_users, INSERT 7 random cards into game_cards.
 3. Draw one card for the discard pile. INSERT this card into game_cards with user_id = null.
 4. UPDATE games SET last_card_played to the ID of this discard card.
 5. UPDATE games SET status = true.
 6. Get user_id from game_users where turn_order = 1.
 7. UPDATE games SET player_turn to that user_id.
- **Success Response:** 202 Accepted (Game logic is processing).

- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: User not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: User is not the host.
 - 400 Bad Request: Not enough players (must be 2-4).
 - 404 Not Found: game_id does not exist.
- **Socket.io Events:**
 - game:state:update -> All players in room. (Sends full public state).
 - game:hand:update -> Each player privately. (Sends their 7 cards).

Endpoint: Get Game State (Public)

- **Method & Route:** GET /api/games/{game_id}
- **Purpose:** Returns the full public state of a game in progress.
- **Authorization:** User must be authenticated AND a participant in the game.
- **Request Body:** None.
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists.
 2. Check if user is in game_users for this game_id.
- **State Updates:** None.
- **Success Response:** 200 OK


```
{
  "id": 123,
  "status": true,
  "player_turn": 1, // user_id of current player
  "is_clockwise": true,
  "last_card_played": { "id": 50, "color": "blue", "symbol": "five" },
  "players": [
    { "user_id": 1, "username": "host_user", "card_count": 7 },
    { "user_id": 2, "username": "player_2", "card_count": 7 }
  ]
}
```

- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: User not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: User is not a participant in this game.
 - 404 Not Found: game_id does not exist.
- **Socket.io Events:** None.

Endpoint: Get My Hand (Private)

- **Method & Route:** GET /api/games/{game_id}/hand
- **Purpose:** Returns the private hand for the *authenticated* user.

- **Authorization:** User must be authenticated AND a participant in the game.
- **Request Body:** None.
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists.
 2. Check if user is in game_users for this game_id.
- **State Updates:** None.
- **Success Response:** 200 OK


```
{
  "hand": [
    { "id": 10, "color": "red", "symbol": "one" },
    { "id": 25, "color": "green", "symbol": "skip" },
    { "id": 108, "color": "black", "symbol": "wild" }
  ]
}
```
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: User not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: User is not a participant in this game.
 - 404 Not Found: game_id does not exist.
- **Socket.io Events:** None.

3. Game Action Endpoints

Endpoint: Play Card

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/games/{game_id}/play
- **Purpose:** Allows the current player to play a card from their hand.
- **Authorization:** Must be authenticated; must be a participant; must be their turn.
- **Request Body:**

```
{
  "card_id": 25,
  "chosen_color": "blue" // Optional: only for Wild cards
}
```
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists and status is true.
 2. Check games.player_turn matches the authenticated user's ID.
 3. Check if card_id exists in game_cards for this user_id and game_id.
 4. Get games.last_card_played. Check if the card_id from request is a valid move (matches color, symbol, or is wild).
 5. If card is wild, check that chosen_color is provided.

- **State Updates:**
 1. DELETE card from game_cards (player's hand).
 2. UPDATE games SET last_card_played = card_id. (If wild, store a "virtual" card ID that also contains the chosen_color).
 3. **Handle special card logic (skip, reverse, draw).**
 4. Determine next player's user_id based on turn_order and is_clockwise.
 5. UPDATE games SET player_turn to the next player's user_id.
- **Success Response:** 202 Accepted.
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: Not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: Not your turn.
 - 404 Not Found: Game or card not found.
 - 400 Bad Request: Invalid move (card doesn't match), or chosen_color missing for wild.
- **Socket.io Events:**
 - game:state:update -> All players in room.
 - game:hand:update -> The player who just played (their hand is now smaller).
 - game:ended -> If this was the player's last card.

Endpoint: Draw Card

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/games/{game_id}/draw
- **Purpose:** Allows the current player to draw a card from the deck.
- **Authorization:** Must be authenticated; must be a participant; must be their turn.
- **Request Body:** None.
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists and status is true.
 2. Check games.player_turn matches the authenticated user's ID.
 3. (Optional: Check if player has any valid moves. Most Uno versions allow drawing anytime).
- **State Updates:**
 1. Get one random card not in game_cards for this game_id.
 2. INSERT this card into game_cards for this user_id and game_id.
- **Success Response:** 202 Accepted.
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: Not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: Not your turn.
 - 404 Not Found: Game not found.
 - 409 Conflict: Deck is empty (edge case!).
- **Socket.io Events:**
 - game:state:update -> All players (player's card count changed).
 - game:hand:update -> The player who just drew (sends their new hand).

Endpoint: End Turn (Skip)

- **Method & Route:** POST /api/games/{game_id}/end-turn
- **Purpose:** Allows a player to end their turn, (e.g., after drawing a card).
- **Authorization:** Must be authenticated; must be a participant; must be their turn.
- **Request Body:** None.
- **Validation Checks:**
 1. Check if game_id exists and status is true.
 2. Check games.player_turn matches the authenticated user's ID.
 3. (Optional: Check if the user has already drawn a card this turn).
- **State Updates:**
 1. Determine next player's user_id based on turn_order and is_clockwise.
 2. UPDATE games SET player_turn to the next player's user_id.
- **Success Response:** 202 Accepted.
- **Error Cases:**
 - 401 Unauthorized: Not logged in.
 - 403 Forbidden: Not your turn.
 - 404 Not Found: Game not found.
- **Socket.io Events:**
 - game:state:update -> All players in room.

4. Socket.io Events

This list defines the real-time events our server will emit.

Event: game:state:update

- **Scope:** Public (All players in the game room).
- **Trigger:** After any action that changes the public game state (card played, card drawn, turn ended, game started).
- **Data:** The same JSON object as GET /api/games/{game_id}.

Event: game:hand:update

- **Scope:** Private (Specific player only).
- **Trigger:** After a player draws a card, plays a card, or when the game starts (initial deal).
- **Data:** The player's complete, new hand.

```
{
  "hand": [
    { "id": 10, "color": "red", "symbol": "one" },
    ...
  ]
}
```


Event: game:player:joined

- **Scope:** Public (All players in the game room).
- **Trigger:** After a user successfully joins a lobby (POST .../join).
- **Data:** The new player's public information.

```
{  
  "user_id": 2,  
  "username": "player_2",  
  "turn_order": 2  
}
```

Event: game:ended

- **Scope:** Public (All players in the game room).
- **Trigger:** When a player plays their last card.
- **Data:** The user_id and username of the winner.

```
{  
  "winner_id": 1,  
  "winner_username": "host_user"  
}
```

Event: error:message

- **Scope:** Private (Specific player only).
- **Trigger:** When a user's API call fails validation in a way that needs to be communicated (e.g., "Invalid move").
- **Data:** A simple error message.

```
{  
  "message": "That is not a valid move. The last card was a Blue 5."  
}
```