### Module 5.2 MySQL Install

Spring 2025 CSD310 Database Development and Use

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**Date**: Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

### Module 5.2 MySQL Functions

1. **Function: CONCAT()**
   * The *CONCAT()* function is used to join two or more strings together into a single string. This is useful when you have data spread across multiple columns, like *first\_name* and *last\_name*, and you want to display it as a single, readable value, such as in a report or a mailing label.

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1. **Function: UCASE()**
   * The *UCASE()* function (or its synonym *UPPER()*) converts characters in a string to uppercase. This is essential for data standardization. For example, if you have a *products* table where a product might be entered as ‘laptop’, ‘Laptop’, or ‘LAPTOP’, you can use *UCASE(product\_name) = ‘LAPTOP’* in a *WHERE* clause to find all variations. This helps make sure queries are consistent and don’t miss any data.

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1. **Function: NOW()**
   * The *NOW()* function returns the current date and time. This is a critical function for auditing and logging. You would use it to create timestamps for when a record is created or last modified, such as logging the exact moment a customer places an order or a user updates their profile information.

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