

UNIVERSITY DATABASE

PREPARED FOR

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Data Management Systems

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As society enters a technological revolution, one of the major challenges is the storage and access of information. Think about an educational system, what data need to be stored? Where will it be held?

With thousands of classes, professors, staff members, courses and educational pathways available, it is easy to lose track of this data. This is where a university database can be the ultimate solution. This following report will outline a framework for a university database which would be essential for any educational institution.

The 3 key features to this project include:

- University Scheme run in MySQL Workbench
- GUI run in a local Wamp server host
- Development of GUI with HTML,CSS and PHP

The following report will provide an overview of the project in its development, analysis and development stages. Sections included in this report include:

- Project Overview
- Industry and Market Analysis
- Database Design Diagrams
- Database Design Application
- Back-end Application
- Front-end Application
- Technical obstacles
- Milestones and Reporting
- Further Advancements

GitHub Link: https://github.com/clar9490/UniversityDatabase



1. Project Overview

This project is based around a university database which allows staff and students to access information that is relevant to them. Information stored within the database includes student data, staff data, grade, courses, department, prerequisite, section numbers and more. Furthermore, various queries can be run within the database which allows for specific information to be pulled out from the data stored.

This project also utilizes various languages such as html, php, json and Rest API to implement a user friendly interface hosted by a local server. This allows for easy access to the information for all sides of the application.

2. Industry and Market Analysis

Prior to the development of the database we did a mock study to replicate the needs for a university database system. These results were collected through a google form and the results can be seen below as Table 1-4.

Table 1. Type of Staff

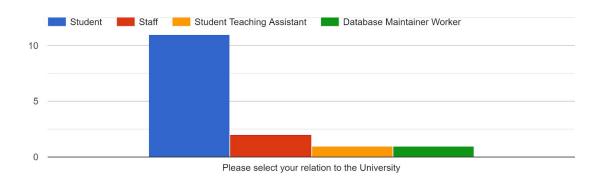




Table 2. Rate Ability of the System

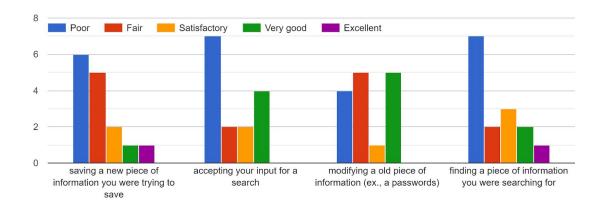


Table 3. Skill and Responsiveness of Database

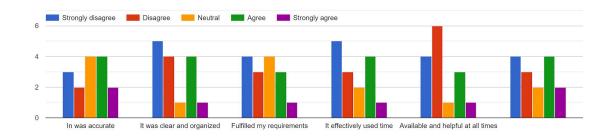
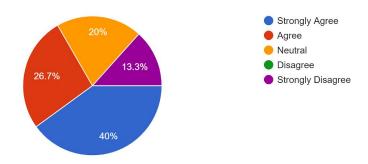


Table 4. The university system needs an upgrade to improve performance





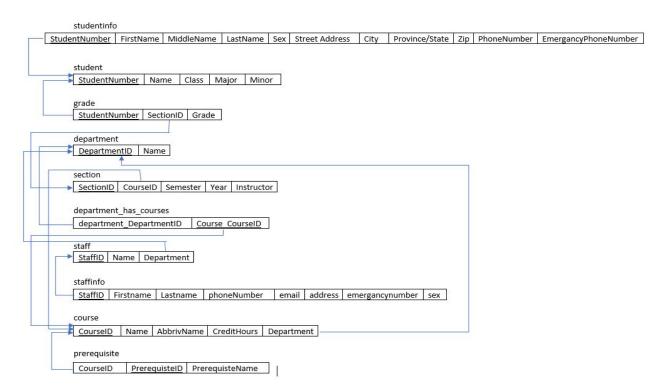
3. Database Design Diagrams

In the initial stages of our database design, we had to utilize the relational schema and ER diagram prior to creation of database in SQL workbench. These documents can be found below.

The relational scheme helped us plan out the tables we found to be necessary for the database. In addition it outlined the primary and foriegn key connections, which made creation of the database easier.

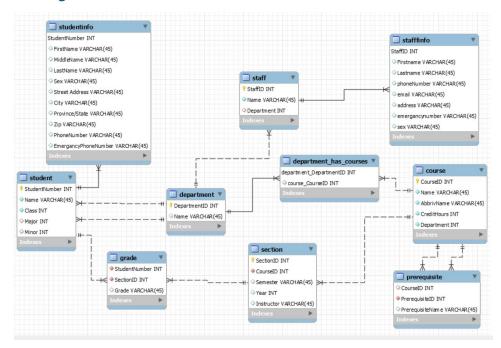
ER diagram was created in mySQL and helped to see the overall structure of the database. With it, we are able to confirm that correct connections are made and see the bigger picture of the entire application.

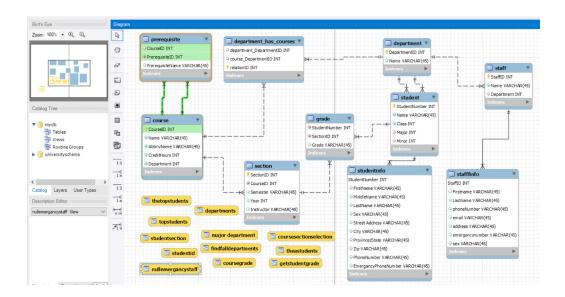
Relational Schema





ER Diagram



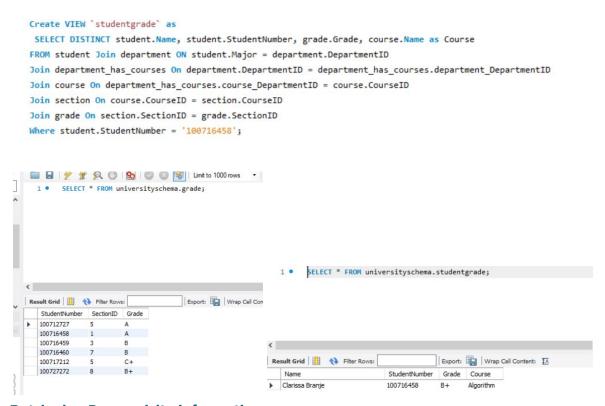




4. Database Design Application

The database was heavily influenced by the course as there were some examples of a university database used to example some certain concepts. This helped establish how certain relationships work between another and how to map out a proper design as well as develop complex queries the project can utilize. Some sample queries are utilised as followed:

Retrieving a Grade for a Student

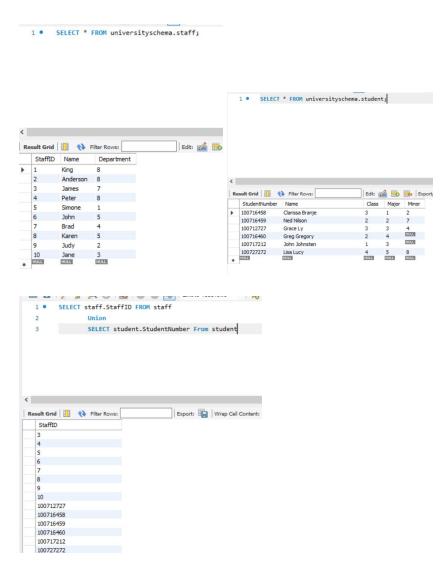


Retrieving Prerequisite information

Upon construction for designing the database. Numerous tables were used to help keep information private and easily accessible. Having many relations between the tables deems the ability to create queries for variating instances. For example, one table designated for the list of staff and another for the list of students. This allowed the Id's of each type of user to be separated and organised. A view with a Join can be used to bring the tables together for the login instance where values from both checked for a match.



Login Join Query



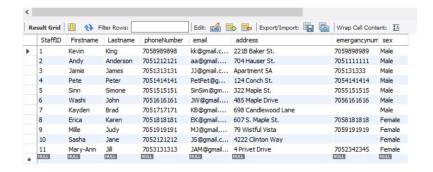
The database was initially planned with MySQL Workbench and then implemented with php myAdmin. The software was selected as it was easy to import and alter the database to the hosted server website.

There were more complex queries planned to be utilised to our database, but our demo website ran out of time to implement the admin stage for maintenance checks.

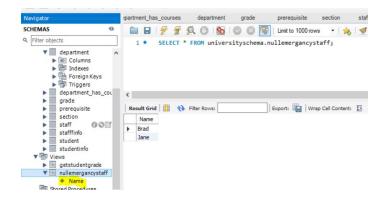


Admin Views

1 • SELECT * FROM universityschema.stafffinfo;



Create VIEW `nullemergancystaff` as
SELECT Name
FROM staff
WHERE StaffID = ANY (SELECT StaffID FROM stafffinfo WHERE emergancynumber = '');





5. Back-end Application

One of the major aspects to this project was developing the back-end application. This was essential in connecting the SQL University Database to the webpage so that it can be easily accessed by the user. This project uses PHP, JSON and Rest API to make the connecting to the university schema. This can be seen in the code snippet below where the connection as indicated by \$conn is made when mysqlu_connect is called.

```
<!php

$dbServername = "localhost";
$dbUsername = "root";
$dbPassword = "root";
$dbName = "universityschem"a";

$conn = mysqli_connect($dbServername, $dbUsername, $dbPassword, $dbName);

if(!$conn){
    die("Connection failed: ".mysqli_connect_error());
}

echo "connected sucessfully";
?>
```

The back-end is also responsible for setting up corresponding actions for when the user were to login, register or search for information within the database. As seen in the code snippet below, when LOGIN is initialized the field is first checked for blank entry in which an alert will be sent to the user. Otherwise, *query1* and *query2* are run which can be used to compare all Student ID and Staff ID with what was entered.

```
if(isset($_LOGIN['login'])){
    $loginID=$_LOGIN['id'];

if($loginID==''){
    echo "Alert('Please enter the id')";
    exit();
}

$query1="SELECT student.StudentNumber From student ";
    $query2="SELECT staff.StaffID FROM staff";

$result1=mysql_query($query1);
    $result2=mysql_query($query2);
```



If a match is found the user is then directed to the corresponding page weather it be *studnet.php* or *staff.php*. This is demonstrated below.

Another key aspect to our back-end code development was the use of queries to fetch and display data. On the *studnet.php*, *staff.php* and *course.php* pages distinct queries were made and referenced in order to display corresponding information. The queries entries can be seen below. By including the initial connection file in the include_once statement we were able to connect our code to the university schema and get the \$conn connection. This is used as an argument in *mysqli_query* function which executes each query within the php.

Queries within Student.php

```
<?php
    include_once 'C:\wamp64\www\datafinal\dbh.inc.php';

$query="SELECT * FROM student WHERE StudentNumber='100716458';";
$query2="SELECT * FROM universityschema.studentgrade;";

$result=mysqli_query($conn,$query);
$result2=mysqli_query($conn,$query2);
?>
```



Queries within Staff.php

```
<?php
    include_once 'C:\wamp64\www\datafinal\dbh.inc.php';
   $query1="SELECT *
                FROM universityschema.staffinfo
                WHERE StaffID = '5';
   $query2="Select course
    .Name , section.Semester
                FROM
                section Join course on section.CourseID =
                    course.CourseID
                staff On section.Instructor = staff.Name
               Where staff.StaffID ='5';
   $query3="Select grade.StudentNumber, grade.Grade, course.Name
                section Join course on section.CourseID =
                    course.CourseID
                Join
                staff On section.Instructor = staff.Name
                Join grade on grade.SectionID = section.SectionID
               Where staff.StaffID ='5';
    $result1=mysqli_query($conn,$query1);
   $result2=mysqli_query($conn,$query2);
   $result3=mysqli query($conn,$query3);
?>
```



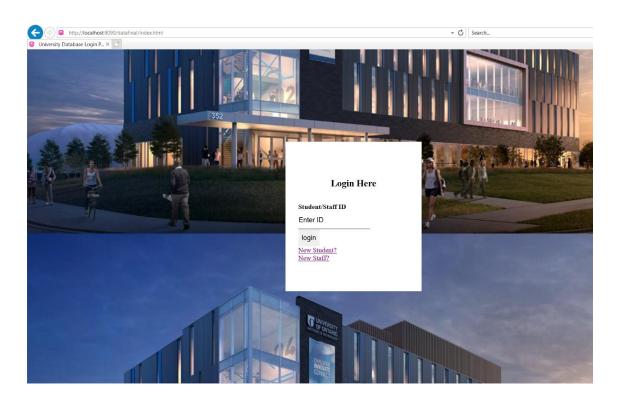
Queries within Course.php



6. Front-end Application

When looking at front-end execution of our program we relied on html and css code to obtain the desired aesthetics for our webpage. Example screenshots to our application are included below.

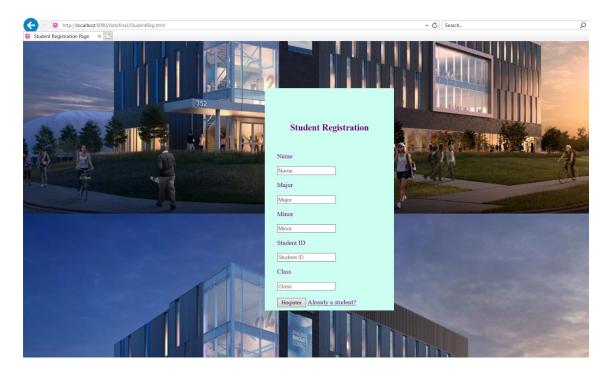
Index.html



This is the homepage of our website where student/staff members of the university input their distinct ID and if the ID is registered in the database then the website prompts the user to view their records and information in another page. In contrast, if the user ID isn't in the database then the system prompts the user to register as either a new student or new staff.



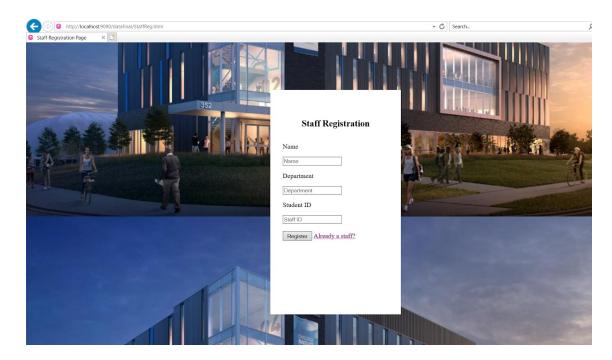
Student Registration Page



This is the student registration page where the student sets up his personal information and after registering the user is prompted to login and his information would be added to the database and displayed.



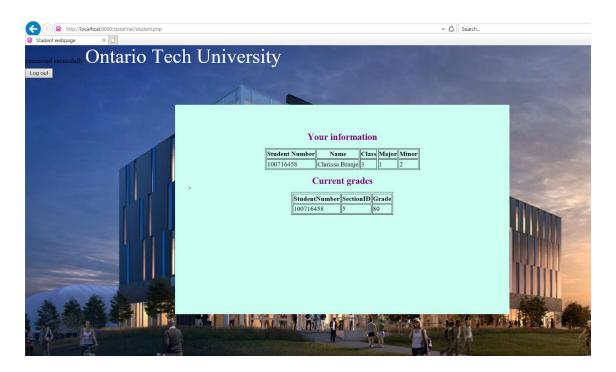
Staff Registration Page



This is the page where staff members can register to be a member of the university and the user information would be added to the database and a new page prompts the staff member to login and he/she would be able to view their informations as well as the students information of the section or course they teach and the students registered under them.



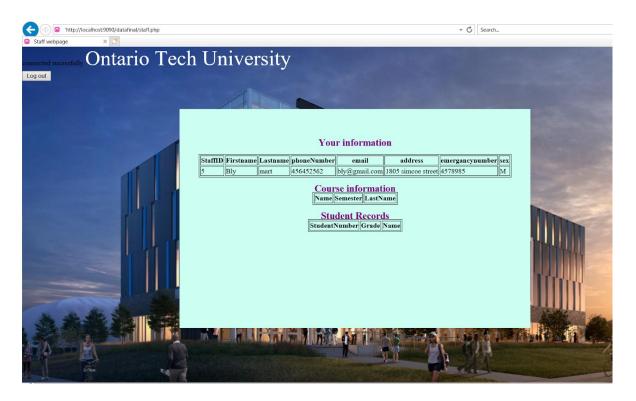
Student Page



The student page of a student who is registered in the university and this page displays the students information and also the student current grades of a particular section the student is registered in.



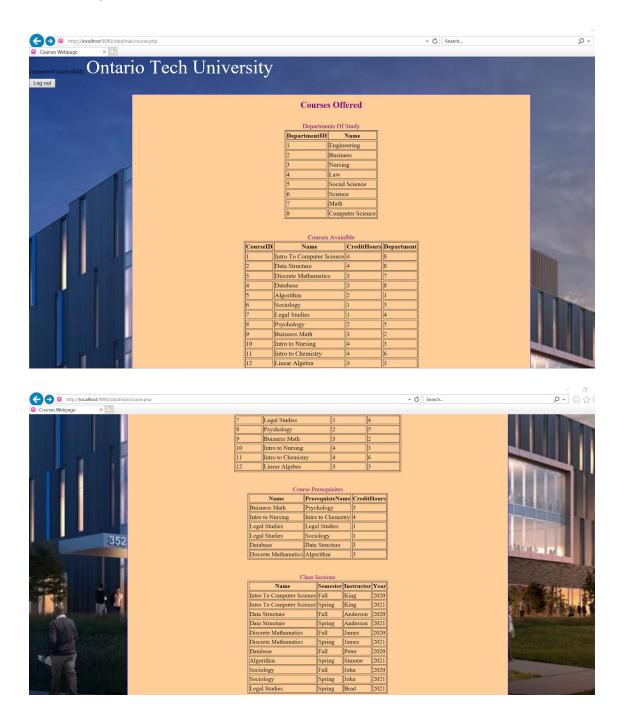
Staff Page



This information provided is an example of a staff logging in to the university system. The staff isn't registered in any course and thus doesn't have any student records to keep track of.



Course Page





In order to display the database the information from the database we also used a table system which matched that of the sql database when a certain query is run. A code snippet has been included below to demonstrate. This particular segment is responsible for showing the Departments table in the *course.php* page.

7. Technical Obstacles

One of the major technical obstacles faced by our team was setting up a local host server. Amongst the 3 servers SQLserver, Whampp and Xampp we found most success with Whampp which is why it is the server we agreed upon. However, each server posed problems along the way when connecting to database and web page display.

Due to the remote nature of the project the transferring of files and ensuring all group members have the same database access posed an issue. Github helped to relieve this but could have been used better to ensure efficient pull/push from files.

Midway through the project database was erased unknowingly. Luckily recreation was not hard as documentation was kept before and this was restored shortly after.



8. Milestones and Reporting

Total estimation of man hours: 188

Milestone	Tasks	Reporting	Hrs	Date		
1 - Analysis						
1.1	Analysis and design stage, gather data and create system mockup	Team	30	13/10/2020		
1.2	Architecture design	Team	8	15/10/2020		
1.3	Project Plan	Report	10	17/10/2020		
2 - Development						
2.1	Create database	Team	10	4/11/2020		
2.2	Import data into database	Team	5	5/11/2020		
2.4	Development of webpage	Team	20	21/11/2020		
2.5	Integration of database with web page	Team	25	22/11/2020		
2.6	Phase II	Report	15	7/11/2020		
3 - Testing						
3.1	Testing web page application	Team	25	23/11/2020		
3.2	Testing database application	Team	25	23/11/2020		
3.4	Phase III	Report	15	26/11/2020		

9. Further Advancements

What was accomplished in this project is only a framework for what can be created when looking at a university database. As mentioned earlier, due to the complex nature of the information related to a university the proper implementation of a functioning database is critical. For one, it creates security for students and staff when looking at restricting data access for people unrelated. It is also needed to ensure ease when organizing courses for the semester, preparing course maps for departments and much more.



Key advancements to project include:

Connect mySQL to the server first before creating the webpage:

This allows you to ensure that you are connected to a reliable and functioning server and also this is important in writing your code to ensure that you are connected to the right host when calling your database. Ideally connect to a wamp or xampp server.

• Incorporate a course registration for students on the course page:

This allows students to directly register for courses that they require through the website. This improves reusability and efficiency for users.

• Make stored procedures to quicken the runtime:

Improves efficiency and organization for the program. Allows for easier advancements and additions to be made in the future.

Create more detailed tables:

Expand the data fields to collect more information. This can be for current tables and as well for future creation of new tables. Examples for students may include separating between undergraduate, master and PHD students.

• Create an admin user to manage more input and output info:

Administrator side would be able to edit both students and staff for the university. They should also have ultimate access to courses, departments and can control through the website for easy organization for the university.

• Give grade change permissions to the Professor:

Professors should be able to update grades for students within their course and section. This increases interaction with the platform and improves efficiency for professors.

• Expand server through a network to carry over many computers and extend availability:

This helps to make work more efficient and productive, as computer operations wouldn't be one-sided and over-dependency on one system has consequences (e.g loss of files or crashing of systems), and so if access is given to multiple users, work would be done faster and there is more flexibility and reduced dependency.