

Name

classSelect.php – process and display the results

Description

After user input is retrieved by index.php and is validated by validate.php, classSelect.php processes the results. classSelect.php contains an associative array where the key is a class and the value is an array of all the classes that have the key as a prerequisite. The user's list of taken classes is compared against this associative array to determine what classes the user qualifies for. The user is then presented with a few recommended classes and a pool of alternative classes. On mouseover, a class description is displayed at the bottom of the page. This description is retrieved from a database using functions from lib.php, and is then encoded into a JSON object. The table structure for can found in the directory /doc/tables/descriptions/

classSelect.php is also responsible for inserting the user input into the database. This includes their first and last name, student ID, email address, and the list of all classes taken by the user. Detailed information about the structure of the database can be found in the directory /doc/DB Tables/

Styling

The results are displayed by procedurally generating div blocks for each class that the user can take. The styling for these generated divs and the class description can be found in classStyles.css.

Database overview

The database contains six tables: 2XX, 3XX, 4XX, MATH, SCIENCE, and USERINFO. The USERINFO table has three columns named 'First', 'Last', and 'USER'. The user's first and last name are stored in the columns 'First' and 'Last' respectively, and 'USER' stores the student id. The exact table structure can be found in /doc/DB Tables/USERINFO.pdf.

For each of the other tables, there is a column 'USER' for storing the user's student id. There is also a column for each class within the table. For example, the 2XX table has a column 'USER' and also a column for each CMSC 2xx level class. The exact table structue for these tables can also be found in the directory /doc/DB Tables/.

When the form on index.php is submitted, the user info is added the USER table and the user's id is added to all tables. Then, for each class the user has taken, the entry in the appropriate table is updated, and the value in the column

that represents that class is set to '1'.

The class descriptions are stored in a separate database. They are stored in a table called descriptions, which has two columns 'course' and 'desc'. 'course' stores a class (e.g. 'CMSC201') and the 'desc' stores a description of the course.