CSB20 Assignment 3 Report

For this assignment, I had to expand my website from Assignment 2 by adding a login system, database, and some interactive features. It was definitely more challenging than the previous assignments but also more interesting because I got to see how all the different pieces work together.

I set up the website so there are two types of users; students and instructors. Each can see different things when they log in. Students can check their own grades and submit remark requests if they think a mark is wrong, while instructors can see everyone's grades and approve or reject those remark requests. I had to use password hashing to keep everything secure, which was new to me but made sense once I figured it out.

Creating the database was probably the most time-consuming part. I had to think carefully about how to organize the information and connect different tables together. For example, I needed to link a student's remark request to both the student and the specific assignment they wanted remarked. Testing all these connections before adding the actual website interface saved me a lot of headaches later.

The student dashboard shows a personalized welcome message and their grades for assignments, labs, midterm, and the final exam. I added buttons next to each grade so students can submit remark requests by explaining why they think they deserve a different mark. There's also a feedback form where students can anonymously tell instructors what they think about the teaching.

For instructors, I created a dashboard where they can see how all students are doing in the course. They can add new grades or change existing ones. When students submit remark requests, instructors can see these requests along with the student's explanation, and decide whether to approve or reject them. They can also read student feedback about their teaching.

The hardest part was definitely making sure the right information showed up for the right people. I had to spend a lot of time on the login system and making sure students couldn't see other students' grades. I also struggled with updating parts of the page without refreshing the whole thing, but eventually got it working.

I'm pretty happy with how it turned out, especially some of the extra features I added like the color-coded status badges that make it easy to see which remark requests are pending, approved, or rejected. I definitely learned a lot about how web applications connect to databases, which was the main point of the assignment.