-- What postgreSQL does when some tuples can't be removed -- due to a foreign-key constraint, but others can.

dbsrv1% psql csc343h-dianeh
psql (9.1.14)
Type "help" for help.

csc343h-dianeh=> set search_path to university; SET

-- There are 19 courses.

csc343h-dianeh=> select * from course;

CSC343H-diamen=> Select · Hom course,				
cnum	name	dept	breadth	
343	Intro to Databases	l csc	+ f	
207	Software Design	csc	ı. İf	
148	Intro to Comp Sci	csc	ı · İ f	
263	Data Struct & Anal	csc	ı. İf	
320	Intro to Visual Computing	csc	ı . İ f	
200	Intro Archaeology	ANT	İt	
203	Human Biol & Evol	ANT	f	
150	Organisms in Environ	EEB	f	
216	Marine Mammal Bio	EEB	j f	
263	Compar Vert Anatomy	EEB	f	
110	Narrative	ENG	l t	
205	Rhetoric	ENG	t	
235	The Graphic Novel	ENG	t	
200	Environmental Change	ENV	f	
320	Natl & Intl Env Policy	ENV	f	
220	Mediaeval Society	HIS	t	
296	Black Freedom	HIS	t	
222	X	CSC	f	
100	Υ	CSC		
(19 rows)				

-- Which have been offered?

csc343h-dianeh=> select * from course where exists

csc343h-dianeh-> (select * from offering where

csc343h-dianeh(> offering.dept = course.dept

csc343h-dianeh(> and offering.cnum = course.cnum);
cnum | name | dept | breadth

cnum	name	dept	breadth	
343 207 148	 Intro to Databases Software Design Intro to Comp Sci	 CSC CSC	+ f f f	
263	Data Struct & Anal	csc	f	
320	Intro to Visual Computing	csc	f	
200	Intro Archaeology	ANT	t	
203	Human Biol & Evol	ANT	f	
150	Organisms in Environ	EEB	f	
216	Marine Mammal Bio	EEB	f	
263	Compar Vert Anatomy	EEB	f	
110	Narrative	ENG	l t	
205	Rhetoric	ENG	t	
235	The Graphic Novel	ENG	t	
200	Environmental Change	ENV	f	
320	Natl & Intl Env Policy	ENV	f	
220	Mediaeval Society	HIS	t	
296	Black Freedom	HIS	t	
(17 rows)				

-- Which have never been offered?

csc343h-dianeh=> select * from course where not exists

csc343h-dianeh-> (select * from offering where

```
csc343h-dianeh(> offering.dept = course.dept
csc343h-dianeh(> and offering.cnum = course.cnum);
cnum | name | dept | breadth
222 | COBOL programming | CSC | f
 100 | CSC for Future Prime Ministers | CSC |
(2 rows)
-- Let's try deleting all the CSC courses. Two of them
-- won't violate any foreign-key constraints, because they were
-- never offered, so could be safely deleted.
-- The others all will violate a foreign-key constraint:
-- offerings will no longer have a course tuple
-- to refer to. No reaction policy was specified in table
-- Offering, so it defaults to reject.
csc343h-dianeh=> delete from course where dept = 'CSC';
ERROR: update or delete on table "course" violates foreign key constraint "offering_cnum_fkey" on
table "offering"
DETAIL: Key (cnum, dept)=(343, CSC) is still referenced from table "offering".
-- Okay, so the DBMS refused to remove course csc343. What about
-- the others? The courses that were never offered could have been
-- safely removed.
csc343h-dianeh=> select * from course where not
exists (select * from offering where offering.dept = course.dept
and offering.cnum = course.cnum);
cnum | name | dept | breadth
-----
 (2 rows)
-- But they weren't. The others, of course, could not be removed.
-- So the courses table is unchanged.
csc343h-dianeh=> select * from course;
cnum | name | dept | breadth
-----+-----+-----
 343 | Intro to Databases | CSC | f
 207 | Software Design | CSC | f
148 | Intro to Comp Sci | CSC | f
263 | Data Struct & Anal | CSC | f
 320 | Intro to Visual Computing | CSC | f
 200 | Intro Archaeology | ANT | t
203 | Human Biol & Evol | ANT | f
 203 | Human Biol & Evol | ANT | f
150 | Organisms in Environ | EEB | f
216 | Marine Mammal Bio | EEB | f
263 | Compar Vert Anatomy | EEB | f
110 | Narrative | ENG | t
                                | ENG | t
 205 | Rhetoric
 235 | The Graphic Novel | ENG | t
200 | Environmental Change | ENV | f
 320 | Natl & Intl Env Policy | ENV | f
 220 | Mediaeval Society
                                 | HIS | t
 296 | Black Freedom
                                  | HIS | t
```

CSC

| CSC |

| f

222 | X

100 | Y

(19 rows)

⁻⁻ I would NOT assume that other DBMSs do the same thing in this circumstance