Course Management API - Documentation Report

Project Overview

A RESTful API for course management with validation, rate limiting, and file-based persistence. This documentation covers the implementation approach for each user story with code snippets and outputs.

User Story 1: CRUD API Setup

Implementation Approach

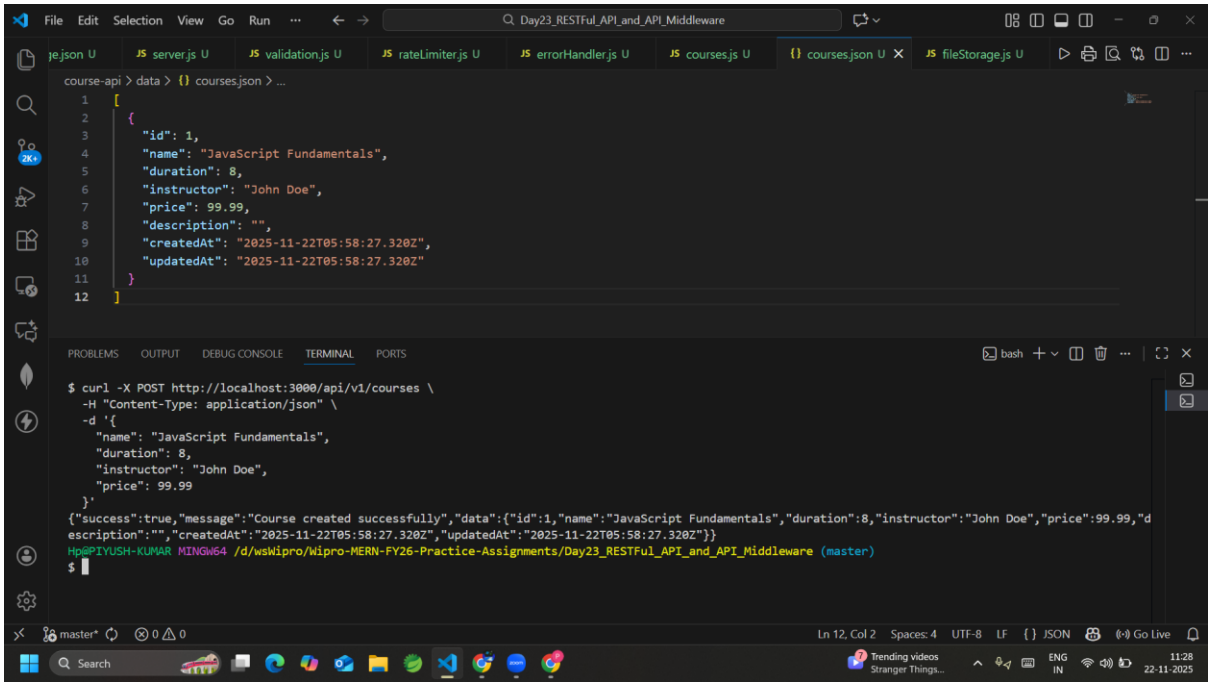
Built RESTful endpoints for course management using Express.js with in-memory storage initially, then migrated to file-based JSON storage for data persistence. Implemented proper HTTP status codes and REST conventions.

Key Code Snippet

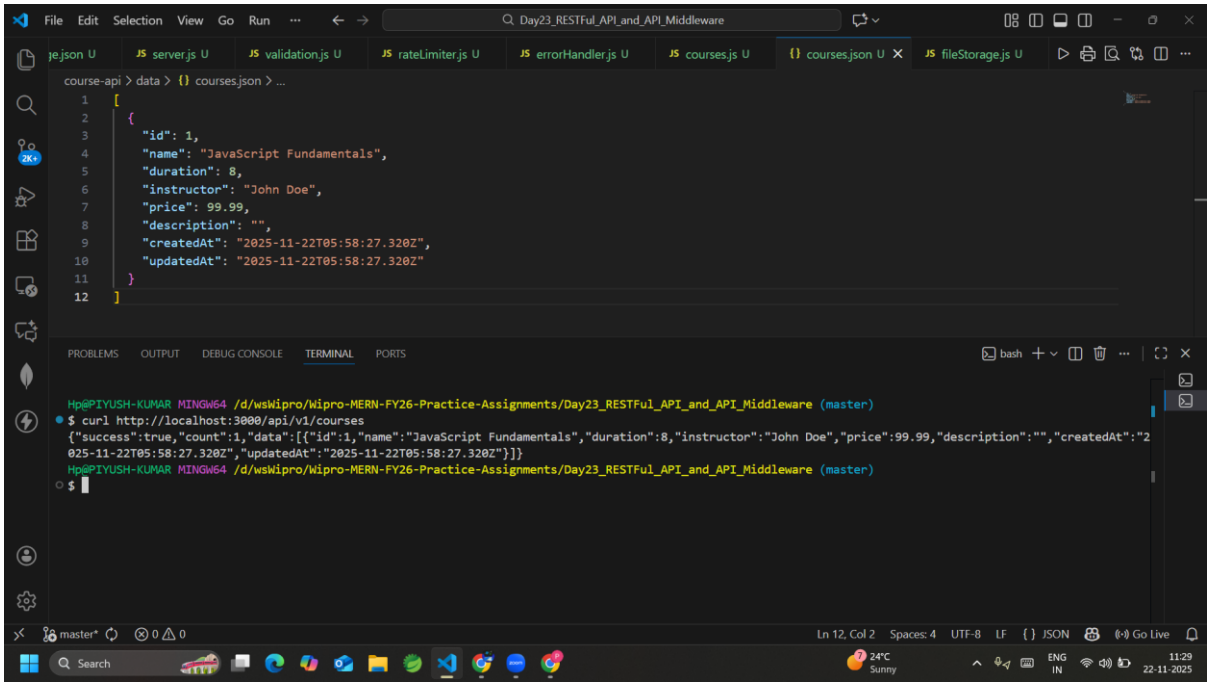
```
// routes/courses.js - CRUD operations
router.get('/', async (req, res) => {
    const courses = await readCourses();
    res.status(200).json({ success: true, data: courses });
});

router.post('/', createCourseLimiter, validateCourseCreate,
handleValidationErrors,
    async (req, res) => {
        const newCourse = { id: generateNewId(courses), ...req.body };
        courses.push(newCourse);
        await writeCourses(courses);
        res.status(201).json({ success: true, data: newCourse });
    });
```

Output

[POST]



[GET]



User Story 2: Input Validation

Implementation Approach

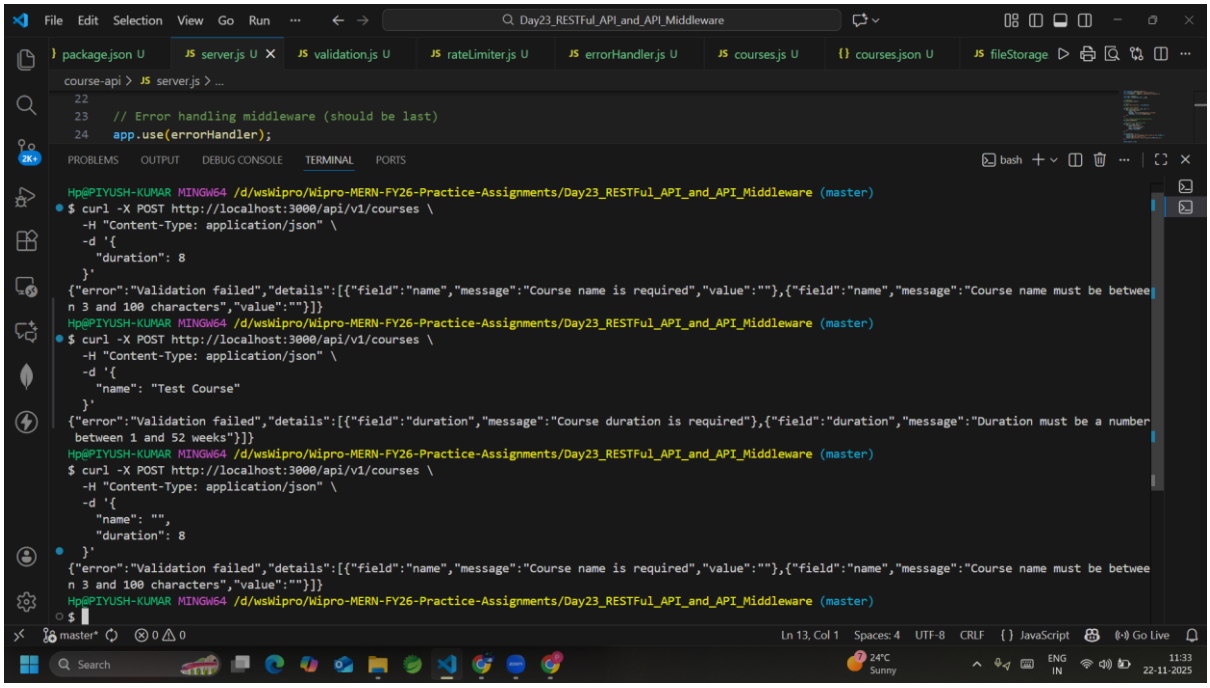
Implemented server-side validation using express-validator middleware to ensure data integrity. Added validation rules for required fields, data types, and constraints with meaningful error messages.

Key Code Snippet

```
// middleware/validation.js
```

```
const validateCourseCreate = [
    body('name')
        .trim()
        .notEmpty().withMessage('Course name is required')
        .isLength({ min: 3, max: 100 }),

    body('duration')
        .notEmpty().withMessage('Course duration is required')
        .isInt({ min: 1, max: 52 }),

    body('instructor')
        .optional()
        .isLength({ min: 2, max: 50 })
];

const handleValidationErrors = (req, res, next) => {
    const errors = validationResult(req);
    if (!errors.isEmpty()) {
        return res.status(400).json({
            error: 'Validation failed',
            details: errors.array()
        });
    }
    next();
};
```

Output



User Story 3: API Rate Limiting

Implemented rate limiting using express-rate-limit middleware to prevent API abuse. Configured different limits for general API usage (5 req/min) and course creation (3 req/min) with appropriate error responses.

Key Code Snippet

```
// middleware/rateLimiter.js
const apiLimiter = rateLimit({
    windowMs: 1 * 60 * 1000, // 1 minute
    max: 5, // 5 requests per minute
    message: {
        error: 'Too many requests',
        message: 'You have exceeded the 5 requests per minute limit.',
        retryAfter: '60 seconds'
    }
});

const createCourseLimiter = rateLimit({
    windowMs: 1 * 60 * 1000,
    max: 3, // 3 creation requests per minute
    message: {
        error: 'Too many course creation requests',
        message: 'Please slow down when creating new courses.'
    }
});
```

Output