

# 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]

```

course-api > data > {} courses.json > ...
1  [
2    {
3      "id": 1,
4      "name": "JavaScript Fundamentals",
5      "duration": 8,
6      "instructor": "John Doe",
7      "price": 99.99,
8      "description": "",
9      "createdAt": "2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z",
10     "updatedAt": "2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z"
11   }
12 ]
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
$ curl -X POST http://localhost:3000/api/v1/courses \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-d '{
  "name": "JavaScript Fundamentals",
  "duration": 8,
  "instructor": "John Doe",
  "price": 99.99
}'
{"success":true,"message":"Course created successfully","data":{"id":1,"name":"JavaScript Fundamentals","duration":8,"instructor":"John Doe","price":99.99,"description":"","createdAt":"2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z","updatedAt":"2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z"}}
Hp@PIYUSH-KUMAR MINGW64 /d/wswipro/Wipro-MERN-FY26-Practice-Assignments/Day23_RESTful_API_and_API_Middleware (master)
$ 

```

## [GET]

```

course-api > data > {} courses.json > ...
1  [
2    {
3      "id": 1,
4      "name": "JavaScript Fundamentals",
5      "duration": 8,
6      "instructor": "John Doe",
7      "price": 99.99,
8      "description": "",
9      "createdAt": "2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z",
10     "updatedAt": "2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z"
11   }
12 ]
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
$ curl http://localhost:3000/api/v1/courses
{"success":true,"count":1,"data":[{"id":1,"name":"JavaScript Fundamentals","duration":8,"instructor":"John Doe","price":99.99,"description":"","createdAt":"2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z","updatedAt":"2025-11-22T05:58:27.320Z"}]}
Hp@PIYUSH-KUMAR MINGW64 /d/wswipro/Wipro-MERN-FY26-Practice-Assignments/Day23_RESTful_API_and_API_Middleware (master)
$ 

```

## 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

The screenshot shows the VS Code interface with the terminal tab active, displaying the following command-line interactions:

```

22
23 // Error handling middleware (should be last)
24 app.use(errorHandler);

$ curl -X POST http://localhost:3000/api/v1/courses \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-d '{
  "name": "Test Course"
}'
{"error": "Validation failed", "details": [{"field": "name", "message": "Course name is required", "value": ""}, {"field": "name", "message": "Course name must be between n 3 and 100 characters", "value": ""}]}
$ curl -X POST http://localhost:3000/api/v1/courses \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-d '{
  "name": "Test Course"
}'
{"error": "Validation failed", "details": [{"field": "duration", "message": "Course duration is required"}, {"field": "duration", "message": "Duration must be a number between 1 and 52 weeks"}]}
$ curl -X POST http://localhost:3000/api/v1/courses \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-d '{
  "name": "",
  "duration": 8
}'
{"error": "Validation failed", "details": [{"field": "name", "message": "Course name is required", "value": ""}, {"field": "name", "message": "Course name must be between n 3 and 100 characters", "value": ""}]}

```

The terminal also shows the current working directory as /d/wswipro/Wipro-MERN-FY26-Practice-Assignments/Day23\_RESTful\_API\_and\_API\_Middleware (master).

## User Story 3: API Rate Limiting

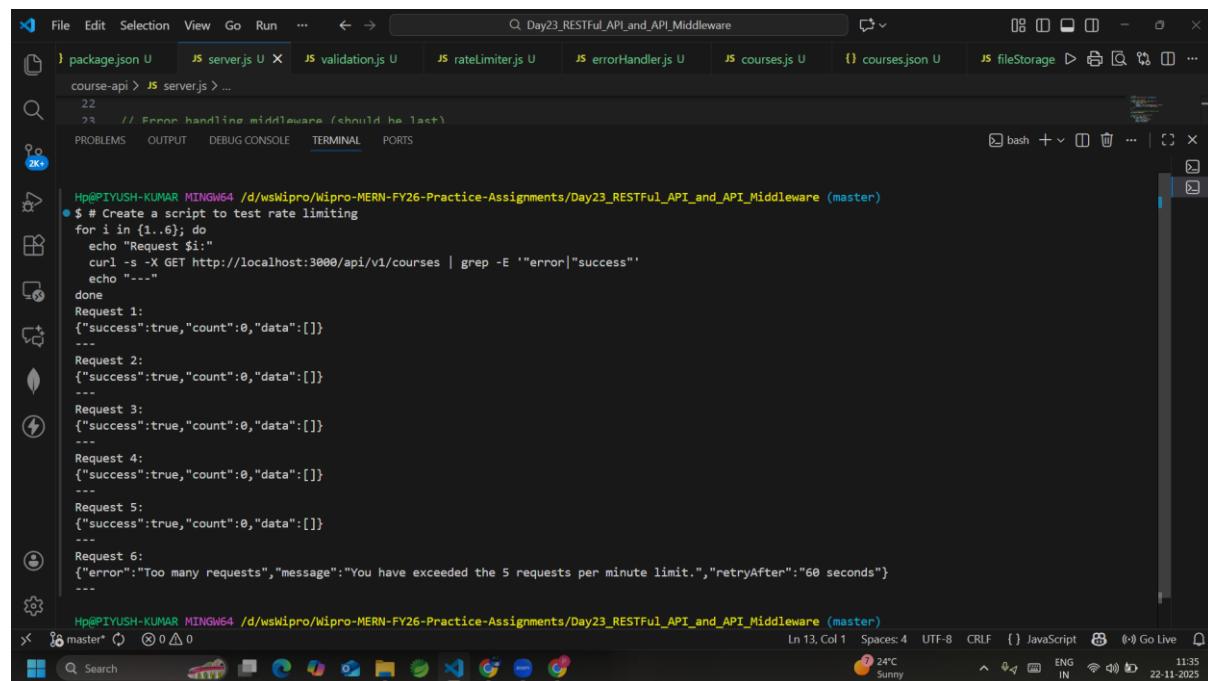
Implemented rate limiting using express-rate-limit middleware to prevent API abuse. Configured different limits for general API usage (5 req/min) and course creation (3 req/min) with appropriate error responses.

## 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



The screenshot shows a terminal window in VS Code displaying the results of a rate limiting test. The user has run a script to make 6 requests to the API. Requests 1 through 5 are successful, each returning a JSON object with 'success': true and 'count': 0. Request 6 triggers an error response: { "error": "Too many requests", "message": "You have exceeded the 5 requests per minute limit.", "retryAfter": "60 seconds" }. The terminal also shows the command used to run the test: \$ # Create a script to test rate limiting.

```
Hp@PIYUSH-KUMAR MINGW64 /d/wswipro/Wipro-MERN-FY26-Practice-Assignments/Day23_RESTFul_API_and_API_Middleware (master)
$ # Create a script to test rate limiting
for i in {1..6}; do
  echo "Request $i"
  curl -s -X GET http://localhost:3000/api/v1/courses | grep -E '"error|"success"'
  echo ""
done
Request 1:
{"success":true,"count":0,"data":[]}
...
Request 2:
{"success":true,"count":0,"data":[]}
...
Request 3:
{"success":true,"count":0,"data":[]}
...
Request 4:
{"success":true,"count":0,"data":[]}
...
Request 5:
{"success":true,"count":0,"data":[]}
...
Request 6:
{"error":"Too many requests","message":"You have exceeded the 5 requests per minute limit.","retryAfter":"60 seconds"}
```