Training Day 17 Report

6 July 2025

The seventeenth day of Web Development training focused on creating a user dashboard after login and implementing access control to protect private pages. We also learned how to personalize the user experience by displaying session-based dynamic content.

1. Creating a Dashboard Page

Developed a simple dashboard that welcomes the logged-in user and provides navigation to other features of the portal.

Features Implemented:

Displayed logged-in user's name or email from the session

Provided navigation options like "Edit Profile," "View Alumni," "Logout"

Used session variables to personalize content

Example:

```
session_start();
echo "Welcome, " . $ SESSION['user'];
```

2. Access Control using Sessions

Protected dashboard and other internal pages from unauthorized access by checking if a session is set.

Access Check Example:

```
session_start();
if (!isset($_SESSION['user'])) {
  header("Location: login.php");
  exit();
}
```

3. Hands-on Practice

Created a dashboard that loads only after successful login

Used \$_SESSION to display personalized content

Restricted dashboard access to logged-in users only

Redirected unauthenticated users back to the login page

4. Relevance to Project

The dashboard is the core of the Alumni Management Portal. Once authenticated, alumni can manage their profiles, view updates, and interact with the portal's features. Proper access control ensures that sensitive data is protected.

5. Learning Outcomes

Learned how to build a session-based user dashboard

Understood how to secure internal pages from unauthorized access

Practiced session management for a personalized user experience

Strengthened knowledge of PHP logic and user workflows

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