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Date: Sept 25, 2024

Course: Foundations of Programming, Python

Assignment 5 - Advanced Collections and Error Handling

Introduction

I was tasked with creating a Python script which demonstrates using constants, variables, and print statements to display a message about a student's registration.

Topic

I had to add to the last code from Assignment 4 and instead of using lists, use dictionaries and have some error handling as well as validation of user input.

Summary

First I was following the demo but kept getting it wrong when I tried to convert my lists to dictionaries because of `course_name`. I kept using `student_course_name` for some reason, automatically following the pattern with the name, like `student_first_name` or `student_last_name`. Such an easy error to fix and I wasn't sure why I keep getting a reference error when I have it all correct (clearly not). After reviewing the assignment review video, I realized what exactly I was doing wrong there!

Besides the original criteria, I wanted to do something if the user does not enter anything or types a space bar, so the program would ask them to try again and make sure the user enters valid data. I'm sure there's a way to write that more efficiently. Currently my code's giving an error if user input is empty or is just space(s) and asks for input of that information again. It's redundant and I'm sure it could be made more efficient but it's what I have for now as I just want to have user input validation in place to ensure that student information is provided properly with non-empty names and course titles. Another big thing here was error handling, making sure we close files and mitigate any file access issues.