MySQL COLLEGE DATABASE Project Report

By

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Mid - Module Assignment

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Part 1: Construct a Case Study



1.1 Background

Founded in 2020, Manolya College provides flexible, distance education for professionals in technical and entrepreneurial fields. Increasing enrolment has rendered its file-based system inefficient due to data duplication and lack of integration. Challenges include error-prone course management, inconsistent grade recording, and limited student access to course information. To resolve these issues, the college requires a centralized database system integrating its primary entities—admins, teachers, students, and courses—into a cohesive, self-describing framework of records (Connolly and Begg, 2014).

1.2 Requirements

The requirements gathering phase identified functional and non-functional specifications critical to the database design (Table 1). Functional requirements focused on supporting essential workflows (Ullah and Lai, 2011), such as data entry, retrieval, and updates. Non-functional requirements emphasized broader organizational priorities, including system requirement and performance, usability, recoverability, and robust data security to ensure compliance and integrity.

Table 1: Requirements Gathering

Functional	Nonfunctional
Roles: Admins Students Teachers Admins action: Add/Remove course Assign course to teachers Student action: View/Register (offered) courses Teachers action: View/Grade (course-registered) students	 User friendly interface (Usability) Support concurrent requests The response time should be less than 5 secs Database and backups should be closely synchronised. Accessing the database should require authentication (User Account/Password) Access to the database would timeout after an inactivity of 45 mins The software should be able to run on systems with a minimum memory of 128 MB Data usage must conform to GDPR standards

Part 2: Define the Data Model

2.1 Entity-Relationship

Figure 1 illustrates four entities (*Admins, Courses, Students, and Teachers*) and their junction tables (*Course_Allocation, Course_Registration, and Grading*). Each is defined by specific attributes, and their interrelations are organized around four primary actions: Create, Allocate, Register, and Grade.

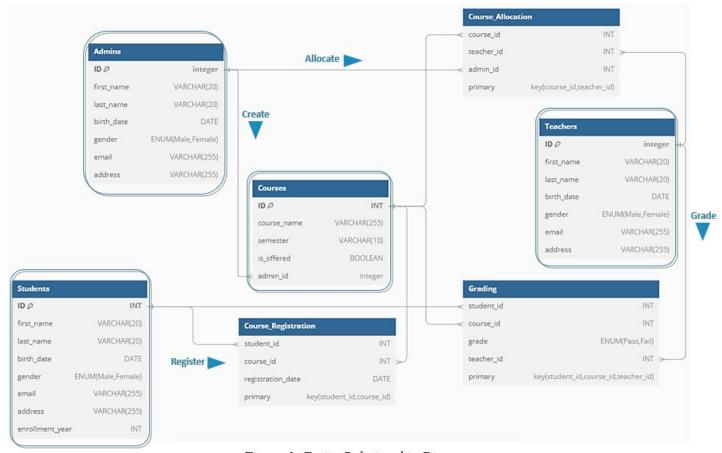


Figure 1: Entity-Relationship Diagram

2.2 Relational Data Model

The relational data model is well-suited for the college's database, offering a structured, predefined schema that supports efficient CRUD operations for managing students, courses, and assessments (Garcia-Molina, Ullman and Widom 2013; Halpin and Morgan, 2020; Watt, 2014). Table 2 outlines the schema, emphasizing relations and attributes while ensuring minimal redundancy, logical dependencies, and data integrity through a three-level normalization process (Codd, 1979; Kumar and Azad, 2017). Constraints, including primary and foreign keys, as well as NOT NULL and UNIQUE checks, enforce data accuracy, as detailed in Table 3.

Table 2: Relational Data Schema

Entity {Attributes} Primary/Composite Key – Bold, Foreign Key – Italicized* Admins {ID, first_name, last_name, age, gender, email, address} Teachers {ID, first_name, last_name, age, gender, email, address} • Students { ID, first_name, last_name, age, gender, email, address enrollment_year} Entity Courses {ID, course_name, semester, is_offered, admin_id*} Relations FOREIGN KEY admin id Admins(ID) Course_Allocation {course_id*, teacher_id*, admin_id*} FOREIGN KEY course_id Courses(ID) FOREIGN KEY teacher_id Teachers(ID) FOREIGN KEY admin_id Admins(ID) Junction Relations • Course Registration (student id*, course id*, registration date) FOREIGN KEY student_id Students(ID) FOREIGN KEY course_id Course(ID) Grading {student_id*, course_id*, grade, teacher_id*} FOREIGN KEY student_id Students(ID) FOREIGN KEY course_id Courses (ID) FOREIGN KEY graded_by Teachers(ID) Normalization • 1NF : Each entity{attributes} is unique and atomic • 2NF: All non-primary key attributes are entirely dependent on their primary key 3NF: All non-primary key attributes do not share any dependencies among themselves

Table 3: Select Relation Schema with Data Types and Constraints defined

Relation	Schema + Constraint	Definition
Admins (
	ID INT (4) PRIMARY KEY,	unique ID identifying each admin staff
	first_name VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,	text field allowing 20 characters
	last_name VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,	text field allowing 20 characters
	birth_date DATE	date of birth YYYY-MM-DD
	gender ENUM('Male', 'Female') NOT NULL,	gender, restricted to Male or Female
	email VARCHAR(255) UNIQUE NOT NULL	unique email field, required
	address VARCHAR(255)	address field allowing up to 255 characters
);		
Students (
	ID INT (4) PRIMARY KEY,	unique ID identifying each student
	first_name VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,	text field allowing 20 characters
	last_name VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,	text field allowing 20 characters
	birth_date DATE	date of birth YYYY-MM-DD
	gender ENUM('Male', 'Female') NOT NULL,	gender, restricted to Male or Female
	email VARCHAR(255) UNIQUE NOT NULL	unique email field, required
	address VARCHAR(255)	address field allowing up to 255 characters
	enrollment_year INT (4)	year the student was enrolled (4 digits)
);		
Courses (
	ID INT (3) PRIMARY KEY,	unique ID identifying each course
	course_name VARCHAR(255) ,	text field allowing 255 characters
	semester VARCHAR(10),	text field allowing 10 characters
	is_offered BOOLEAN,	boolean indicating if the course is offere
	admin_id INT (4),	foreign key referencing admin who created the course
	FOREIGN KEY	foreign key (admin_id) linked to the
	(admin_id) REFERENCES Admins(ID)	Admins table (ID)

Part 3: Implement Database

3.1 Development Environment

MySQL, a widely used open-source RDBMS, was chosen for its reliability, scalability, and robust support for relational data integrity (Matthew and Stones, 2007; Grippa and Kuzmichev, 2021; MySQL, 2001). Development utilized version 6.5.1 of the MySQL Command-Line client (mysql) on an Ubuntu 20.04 LTS operating system (Fig. 2). The command-line interface offers advanced input line editing and supports querying, altering, and defining relational databases through declarative statements (Halvorsen, 2016; MySQL Documentation, 2024).

Figure 2: Command-Line Client (mysql) as used on an Ubuntu 20.04.1

3.2 Database Script

The *setup.sql* script (Fig. 3) initialises the database, creating primary tables (Admins, Teachers, Students, Courses) with primary keys and attributes, and junction tables (Course Allocation, Course Registration, Grading) for many-to-many relationships.

Figure 3: Database setup script

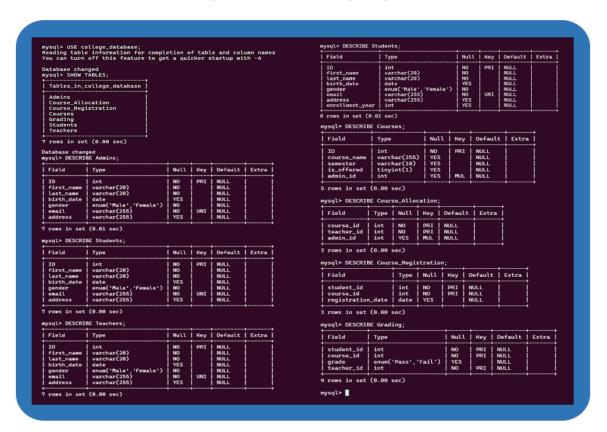


Figure 4: Result of Tables created

Figure 4 shows the tables created after running the script. A batch data entry approach (Microsoft, 2023) was then used to populate the database (Fig. 5) using the *data_en-try.sql* script (See Appendix).

mysql> USE college_database; Reading table information for completion of table and column names You can turn off this feature to get a quicker startup with -A Database changed mysql> Select * FROM Admins; | first_name | last_name | birth_date | gender | email address 150 Baker Street, Victoria Island, Lagos 300, Chester Avenue, Ikeja, Lagos Olawole Nicholas oayoba@manolya.edu neghagha@manolya.edu 2 rows in set (0.00 sec) Select * FROM Courses; course_name semester is_offered | admin_id Introduction to Data Science
Web Development Fundamentals
Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age
Database Management Systems
Project Management for Tech Projects
Cybersecurity for Professionals
Machine Learning and AI for Business
Blockchain Technology and Its Applications
Digital Marketing Strategies
Data Analytics for Business Decisions Fall
Fall
Fall
Fall
Spring
Spring
Spring
Spring
Spring
Spring 101 | 102 | 103 | 104 | 105 | 111 | 112 | 113 | 114 | 115 | 1023 1014 1014 1023 1014 1014 1023 1023 10 rows in set (0.01 sec) mysql> Select * FROM Teachers; | first_name | last_name | birth_date | gender | address ID email 10 Karl-Liebknecht-Strasse, Berlin, Germany 21 Maple Street, Toronto, Canada 18 Ikoyi Crescent, Lagos, Nigeria 67 Rue de Rivoli, Paris, France 33 5th Avenue, New York, USA 45 Las Ramblas, Barcelona, Spain 42 Baker Street, London, United Kingdom 1101 1102 1103 1154 1167 1216 1221 Sam Tom Matthew Paula Paul Elena Jane Gudenberg Lanester Eromosele Manuella Harrison 1978-04-30 1975-03-22 1990-07-05 1985-11-23 1980-06-17 1987-09-09 1982-08-14 sgudenberg@manolya.edu tlanester@manolya.edu meromosele@manolya.edu pmanuella@manolya.edu pharrison@manolya.edu eagulera@manolya.edu jcoldwell@manolya.edu 7 rows in set (0.00 sec) * FROM Grading; student_id | course_id | registration_date | | student_id | course_id | grade | teacher_id | mysql> Select * FROM Course_Allocation; course_id | teacher_id | admin_id 1014 1014 1014 111 113 115 101 103 105 1216 1102 1014 1154 1102 1014 1023 1023 1023 1103 1101 112 114 1023 1023 1167 1221 10 rows in set (0.00 sec) 112 | 113 | 104 | 105 | 114 | 115 | 102 | 103 | 111 | 2415 2416 2416 2416 2416 2416 2418 2418 2418 2418 1167 1102 1154 1101 1221 1154 1221 1103 1216 1154 2415 2416 2416 2416 2416 2416 2418 2418 2418 2418 Pass Fail Fail Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass 160 rows in set (0.00 sec) 160 rows in set (0.00 sec) mysql> Select * FROM Students; first_name . | last_name birth_date | gender address enrollment_year 20 Marine Drive, Mumbai, India
120 5th Avenue, New York, USA
45 Taksim Square, Istanbul, Turkey
88 Chang'an Avenue, Beijing, China
42 Roma Street, Rome, Italy
7 Churchill Road, Cape Town, South Africa
90 Rua da Liberdade, Lisbon, Portugal
123 Insadong St, Seoul, South Korea
32 Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria
20 Ataturk Boulevard, Ankara, Turkey
17 Collins Street, Melbourne, Australia
15 Marina Street, Lagos, Nigeria Female Male Female Male Female Female Female Female Male Male ascott@manolya.edu
abrown@manolya.edu
akarayilan@manolya.edu
sxie@manolya.edu
izaragozze@manolya.edu
simani@manolya.edu
agomez@manolya.edu
gkim@manolya.edu
eagundele@manolya.edu
ncelik@manolya.edu
lucas.brown@manolya.edu
cfrancis@manolya.edu 1994-02-14 1993-03-12 1990-10-30 1997-09-01 1986-04-10 1990-05-08 1990-11-09 1998-05-04 1993-09-12 1993-01-28 Amelia
Alex
Azra
Shao
Isabella
Sara
Alice
Grace
Emma
Murat
Lucas
Chukwudu Scott 2204 2211 2212 2217 2218 2222 2228 2234 2304 2306 2309 2311 Brown
Karayilan
Xie
Zaragozze
Imani
Gomez
Kim
Agundele
Çelik
Brown
Francis Martinez Ogbayagbon Murphy Lee 34 Paseo de la Reforma, Mexico City, Mexico 10 Broad Street, Lagos, Nigeria 77 Collins St, Melbourne, Australia 55 Shibuya, Tokyo, Japan 2414 2415 2416 2418 Leo Henry Ava Jaxon Male Male Female Male lmartinez@manolya.edu hogbayagbon@manolya.edu amurphy@manolya.edu jlee@manolya.edu 40 rows in set (0.00 sec)

Figure 5: Populated Database

3.4 Query Database

Querying the database involved retrieving specific data using declarative statements like SELECT, JOIN, and WHERE to filter and combine information from multiple tables, based on criteria such as course enrolment and academic performance (Fig. 6).



Figure 6: Sample Queries testing the database

3.5 Backup

The mysqldump utility was employed to create a logical backup (Fig. 7). Logical backups provide flexibility in modifying table structures or data prior to restoration. However, they may result in slower restore times compared to physical backups, especially for large datasets (MySQL Documentation, 2024).

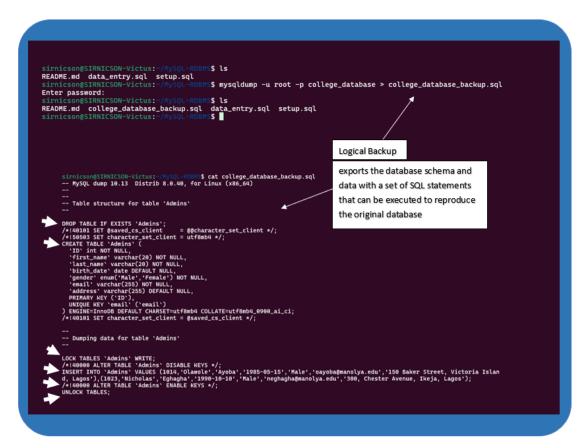


Figure 7: Snippet of Backup file

3.6 Limitations

The database was developed using the MySQL command-line client, which lacks the advanced features and graphical interface of MySQL Workbench. The reliance on separate tables for admins, teachers, and students, rather than employing role-based access control, introduces potential redundancy and inefficiencies in data management.

Kuhn, Coyne and Weil (2010)

Scalability is constrained, making the database less suited for handling large datasets or high transaction volumes.

Performance may degrade with complex queries unless indexing and optimization techniques are implemented.

Konstantinidis and Ambite (2014)

Figure 8: Limitations

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Appendix: Git Repository

GitHub Repository: sirnicson. (2024). *MySQL-RDBMS*. Available at: https://github.com/sirnicson/MySQL-RDBMS.git [Accessed 15 Nov. 2024].