Corpus Christi: A Web Application For Course Enrollment

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Background

Arco Iglesia Cristiana is a church in Cuenca, Ecuador. Our missions computing group was tasked with creating a web application to service their administrative needs. Our team was responsible for creating a system that would allow different users to create, host, and attend Christian fellowship courses. In addition, diplomas can be awarded to enrolled students after completion of essential courses. The application is able to support various user types (e.g., Admin, Registrar, Public) that interact with the system in different ways.

Technology Stack

Flask — web development, one drop at a time

GitHub

slack

POSTMAN

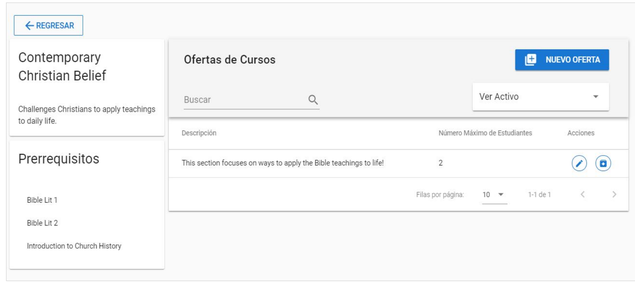
pytest

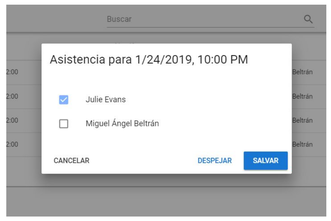
Vue.js

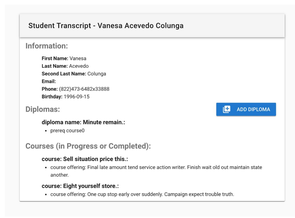
cypress.io

User Interface

The UI group focused on the Administrative side of course creation. We wanted to design an intuitive interface to create, update, and archive Courses, Course Offerings (sections), and create Class Meetings, which are used to track attendance. We have given teachers the ability to edit their rosters by adding students from existing accounts or confirming self-registered students, and created a transcript page for students to track completed and ongoing diplomas. Our UI team worked closely with the other UI teams to ensure a consistent theme to improve ease of use.





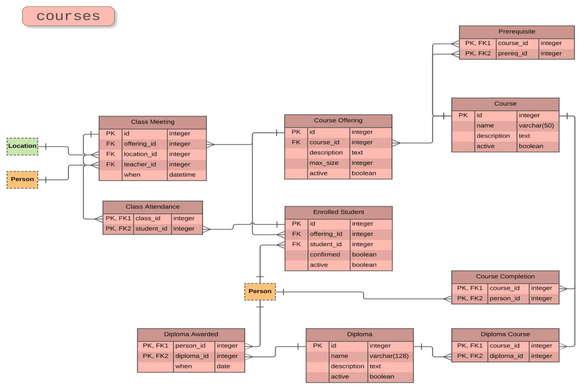


Database

To store data and create the relationships between tables in the database, we used SQLAlchemy, an Object-Relational Mapper. Upon completing the database, we were tasked with populating the tables with information that would be similar to what would be found in most use-cases. To help better support quality assurance, we created command line tools to ensure some consistent entries across multiple machines or when the tables were dropped and recreated.

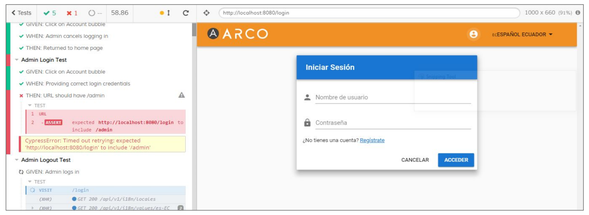
API

On the API side, we used Python, SQL-Alchemy, and Flask to create the routes that the UI team would call to access information in the database. We were heavily involved in communicating with the database and user interface groups to ensure code quality and code integrity. We met regularly with other API team members to identify and apply the best CRUD practices for our project.



Testing

For quality assurance testing, we used Pytest for the API endpoints with an extension for coverage testing and Cypress for end-to-end UI testing. QA was tasked with being a resource to the whole team and to confirm all aspects of our code worked exactly as intended.




```python
@courses.route('/course_offerings/<s_id>', methods=['POST'])
@jwt_required
def add_student_to_course_offering(s_id):
    person = db.session.query(Person).filter_by(id=s_id).first()
    if person is None:
        return 'Person NOT in database', 404
    try:
        valid_student = student_schema.load(request.json)
    except ValidationError as err:
        return jsonify(err.messages), 422

    course_offering = request.json['offeringId']
```

Further Work

We were able to complete a large portion of the courses user stories. There are some UI pages and API endpoints that still need to be completed to add full functionality to the site. Future additions would include a more complete Diplomas page, more information listed on course pages, and the ability to upload images to different course pages.

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