Day 7 - Final Integration and Testing (Entity Framework Core + Stored

Procedures + API Testing)

Objective: Learn to integrate Entity Framework Core with stored procedures and expose them via ASP.NET Core APIs. Validate functionality through structured API testing using tools like Postman or Swagger.

Date: 22-10-2025

1. Review of Entity Framework Core Integration

Entity Framework (EF) Core is an Object-Relational Mapper (ORM) that enables .NET developers to work with a database using .NET objects, eliminating the need for most data-access code.

In this project, we have used:

- **Database First Approach** The database is designed first, and EF Core models are generated from it.
- **DbContext Class** It manages the database connection and mapping between classes and tables.
- Stored Procedures with EF Core EF Core can execute stored procedures using FromSqlRaw() for read operations or ExecuteSqlRaw() for insert, update, and delete operations.

2. Project Components

1. Database:

- StudentCourseDB containing two tables:
 - Students Stores student details
 - Courses Stores course information
- Stored procedures:
 - GetAllStudents
 - sp GetStudentById
 - sp AddStudent
 - sp UpdateStudent
 - sp DeleteStudent

2. Model Classes (in Models folder):

- Student.cs
- o Course.cs
- o These define the data structure in C# that maps to database tables.

3. DbContext Class (ApplicationDbContext.cs):

- o Contains DbSet<Student> and DbSet<Course>.
- o Manages database connections and configurations.

4. Controller (StudentsController.cs):

 Contains API endpoints to perform CRUD operations using stored procedures and EF Core.

3. CRUD Operations with EF Core and Stored Procedures

A. Retrieve All Students

- **Purpose:** To fetch all student records along with their course details.
- EF Core Code:

var students = context.Students.FromSqlRaw("EXEC GetAllStudents").ToList();

• **Key Point:** The stored procedure must return all columns defined in the Student model, including CourseId.

B. Retrieve Student by ID

- **Purpose:** To fetch a specific student record based on their ID.
- EF Core Code:

```
var student = _context.Students
.FromSqlRaw("EXEC sp_GetStudentById @Id={0}", id)
.AsEnumerable()
.FirstOrDefault();
```

Validation: Return 404 if the student is not found.

C. Add a New Student

- **Purpose:** To insert a new student record into the database.
- EF Core Code:

```
_context.Database.ExecuteSqlRaw(

"EXEC sp_AddStudent @Name={0}, @Age={1}, @Grade={2}, @CourseId={3}",

student.Name, student.Age, student.Grade, student.CourseId
```

);

Validation: Check if all required fields are provided before executing.

D. Update Student Details

- **Purpose:** To update an existing student record.
- EF Core Code:

```
_context.Database.ExecuteSqlRaw(

"EXEC sp_UpdateStudent @Id={0}, @Name={1}, @Age={2}, @Grade={3},

@CourseId={4}",

id, student.Name, student.Age, student.Grade, student.CourseId
);
```

Validation: Ensure the student exists before updating.

E. Delete Student

- **Purpose:** To delete a student record from the database.
- EF Core Code:

context.Database.ExecuteSqlRaw("EXEC sp DeleteStudent @Id={0}", id);

Validation: Confirm that the record exists before deletion.

4. Testing the API

A. Using Swagger

- 1. Run the project (dotnet run).
- 2. Open Swagger at: http://localhost:<port>/swagger.
- 3. Test endpoints:
 - o GET /api/students Fetch all students.
 - o GET /api/students/{id} − Fetch by ID.
 - o POST /api/students Add new student.
 - PUT /api/students/{id} Update details.
 - DELETE /api/students/{id} Delete a record.

B. Using Postman

- 1. Create a new collection for StudentApi.
- 2. Add requests for all endpoints with proper HTTP methods.
- 3. Use JSON body in POST and PUT requests like:

```
{
    "name": "John Doe",
    "age": 23,
    "grade": "A",
    "courseId": 2
```

5. Common Errors and Fixes

Error	Cause	Fix
CourseId missing in FromSql	Stored procedure not returning all columns	Include CourseId in SELECT statement
Invalid column name	Property name mismatch	Ensure property names match table columns
500 Internal Server	Missing validation or incorrect	Check stored procedure parameters
Error	SQL syntax	and data types
Cannot connect to DB	Connection string issue	Verify appsettings.json connection string

6. Validation and Best Practices

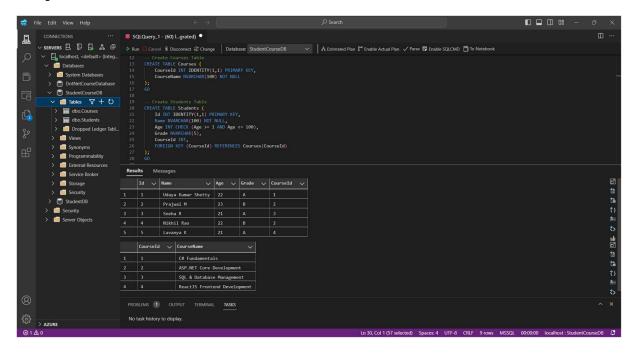
- Use **Data Annotations** in model classes for validation (e.g., [Required], [StringLength], [Range]).
- Implement **try-catch blocks** in controllers to handle exceptions gracefully.
- Ensure **stored procedures** have proper error handling using TRY-CATCH in SQL.
- Follow **RESTful conventions** for API routes and responses.
- Always log errors in case of failure for debugging.

8. Mini Exercise

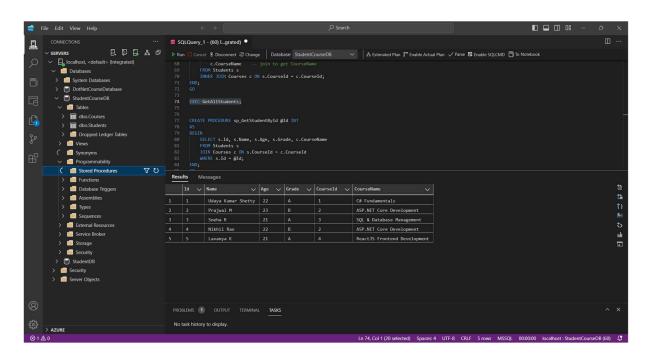
Build and test all API endpoints:

- 1. Fetch all students.
- 2. Fetch student by ID.
- 3. Add a new student.
- 4. Update an existing student.
- 5. Delete a student record.

Snapshots:



Database and tables created successfully in SSMS



Stored procedures verified and executed in SSMS (sp GetStudents)

```
| The field Selection | New | Selection | New |
```

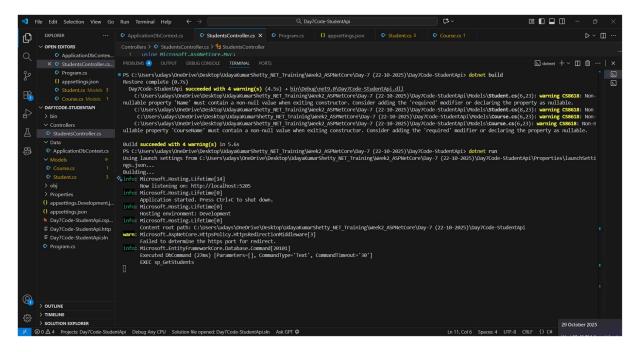
Project structure shown in Visual Studio

Connection string configured in appsettings.json

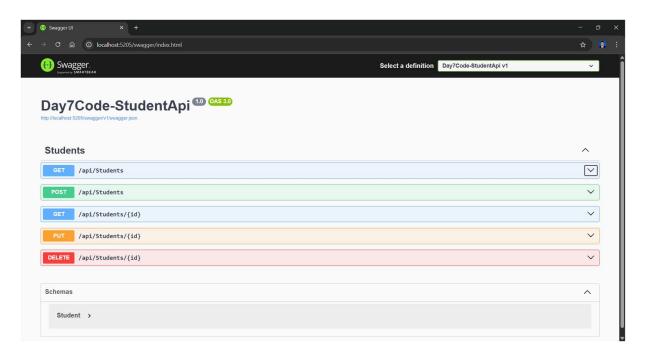
```
| File | Self | Selection | View | Go | Run | Terminal | Help | C -> | Q. Day/Toole-Studenthylip | C -> | Q. Day/Toole-St
```

ApplicationDbContext class with DbSets for Student and Course

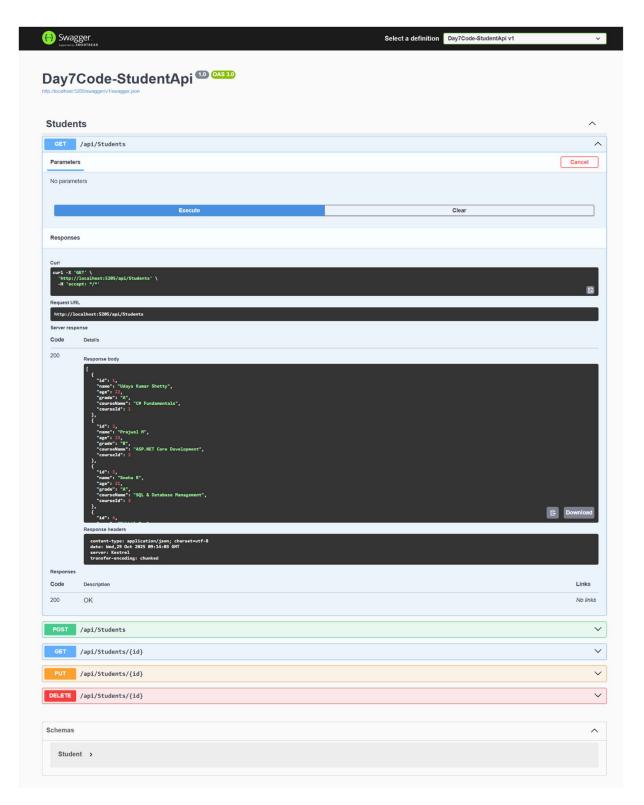
StudentsController implemented with CRUD endpoints



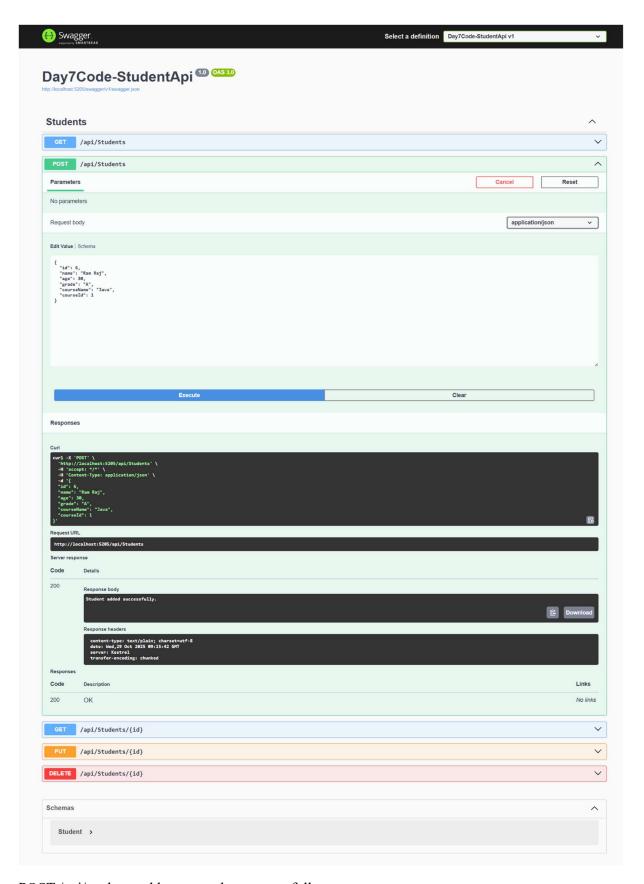
dotnet build completed successfully in terminal



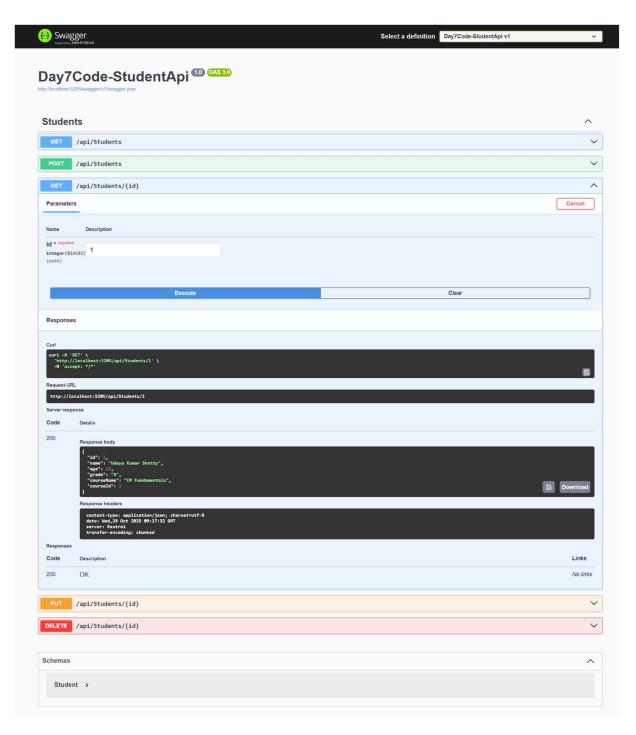
Swagger UI loaded showing all API endpoints



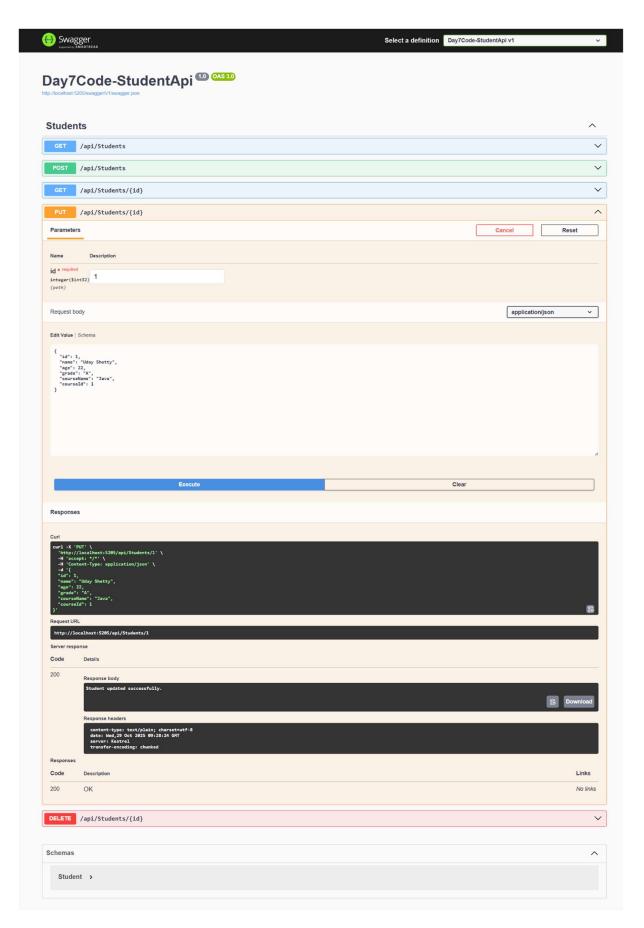
GET /api/students returns full list of students



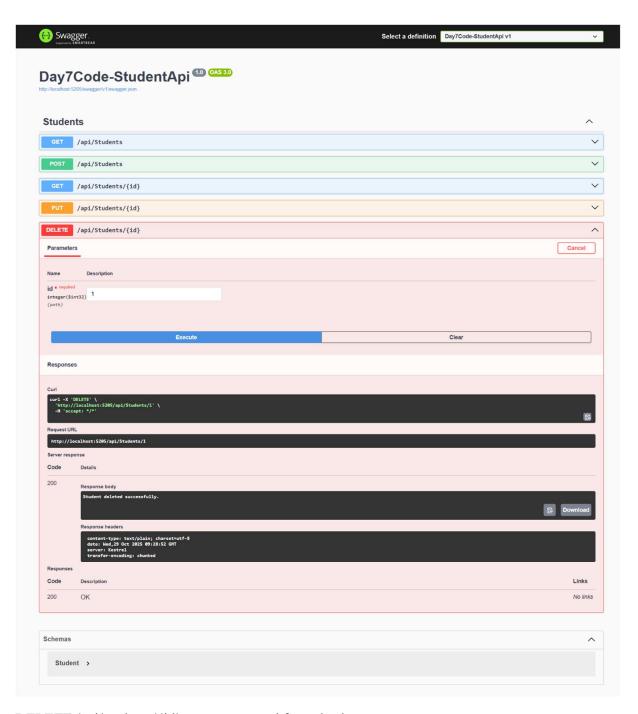
POST /api/students adds new student successfully



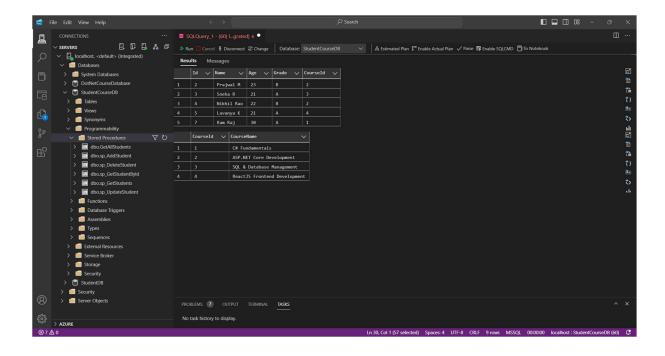
GET /api/students/{id} returns specific student



PUT /api/students/{id} updates record details



DELETE /api/students/{id} removes record from database



SQL Server view shows updated student and course tables after CRUD operations