

# Intro to

Oct. 24-26, 2022  
Embassy Suites  
Concord, NC



Fall 2022 NCASFAA Conference  
“Being Spooky Since 1966”  
Kris Hatcher EdD, FAAC®



# Intro to SQL

- Who am I?
- Why learn about SQL?





# Intro to SQL

- What is a spreadsheet?
- What is a database?
- Similarities & differences?
- What is SQL?



# Intro to SQL

- What is a spreadsheet?
  - Spreadsheets store data in a table format
  - Spreadsheets have rows and columns



# Intro to SQL

- Let's create a 'spreadsheet!'
  1. Organize the provided data into a spreadsheet by yourself or in a group
  2. How did you organize your spreadsheet compared to others in this session?
  3. That being said, what happens when...



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #1 – The city of “Tallahassee” changes its name to “Bowdenville”



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #2 – John Smith adds a second phone number of (904) 248-0085



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #3 – Prevent someone from viewing FAFSA information





# Intro to SQL

- Situation #4 – You need a list of students whose last name begins with “S”



# Intro to SQL

- What is a database?
  - Databases store data
  - Databases can have “rows” and “columns”



# Intro to SQL

- Database advantages
  - Data is only stored once
  - Better security is achieved
  - Performance is maximized



# Intro to SQL

- Let's convert our 'spreadsheet' into a 'database' while addressing the previous situations...



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #1 – The city of “Tallahassee” changes its name to “Bowdenville”



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #2 – John Smith adds a second phone number of (904) 248-0085



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #3 – Prevent someone from viewing FAFSA information



# Intro to SQL

- Situation #4 – You need a list of students whose last name begins with “S”





# Intro to SQL

- What is SQL?
  - SQL = Structured Query Language
  - Developed by IBM in the 1970s
  - Used to retrieve & manipulate data in a *relational* database



# Intro to SQL

- SQL is used to *access & modify* information from a relational database:

- Tables
- Attributes
- “Rows”

table

CITIES

attribute

CITY_ID	CITY_NAME	CITY_ACTIVE
1	Tallahassee	Y
2	Panama City	Y
3	Birmingham	Y
4	Atlantis	N

“Rows”



# SQL for Beginners

- Basic SQL Instruction (*i.e.*, “*query*”)

```
SELECT < attribute(s) >  
FROM   < table(s) >  
WHERE  < condition(s) >
```

table

CITIES

attribute

CITY_ID	CITY_NAME	CITY_ACTIVE
1	Tallahassee	Y
2	Panama City	Y
3	Birmingham	Y
4	Atlantis	N

condition  
(CITY\_ACTIVE = 'N')

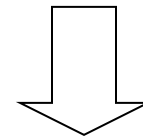


# Intro to SQL

CITIES

CITY_ID	CITY_NAME	CITY_ACTIVE
1	Tallahassee	Y
2	Panama City	Y
3	Birmingham	Y
4	Atlantis	N

```
SELECT CITY_NAME
FROM CITIES
WHERE CITY_ACTIVE = 'Y'
```



Tallahassee
Panama City
Birmingham



# Intro to SQL

```
SELECT      PRIMARY_KEY
FROM
      FAFSA_INFORMATION
WHERE      STUDENT_AGI < 1
```

000000001
000000002

- *< is a comparison operator*
  - *“Where STUDENT\_AGI is less than 1”*



# Intro to SQL

```
SELECT      COUNT (LAST_NAME )  
FROM        DEMOGRAPHICS  
WHERE       LAST_NAME LIKE 'S%'
```

3

- A “function” does something, using something
  - “Count all the last names”
  - “Parameters” are listed in parentheses
- *LIKE* is a logical operator
  - “Where all last names begin with the letter ‘S’ ”



# Intro to SQL

```
SELECT      PRIMARY_KEY
FROM
  FAFSA_INFORMATION
WHERE CITIZEN IN ('1','2')
```

000000001
000000002
000000003
000000004

- *What is the operator?*
  - *IN*
- *What does an “IN” operator do?*
  - *Check for multiple matches, i.e.,  
Where CITIZEN is equal to 1 or 2*



# Intro to SQL

```
SELECT      AVG(PARENT_AGI)
FROM        FAFSA_INFORMATION
WHERE       PARENT_AGI IS NOT
```

55,000

NULL

- *What is the function?*
  - *AVG()*
- *What is the operator?*
  - *IS NOT*
- *What is “NULL?”*
  - *‘Empty’ or ‘No value’ (not zero!)*

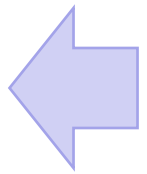




# Intro to SQL

- *Can you guess what this SQL does? (Banner example)*
- *Select students with ISIRs that indicate they may be eligible for Iraq & Afghanistan Service Grant*

```
SELECT SPRIDEN_ID           AS STUDENT_ID,  
       ROBINST_AIDY_CODE    AS AID_YEAR  
FROM RCRAPP1  
INNER JOIN SPRIDEN  
    ON RCRAPP1_PIDM = SPRIDEN_PIDM  
    AND SPRIDEN_CHANGE_IND IS NULL  
INNER JOIN ROBINST  
    ON RCRAPP1_AIDY_CODE = ROBINST_AIDY_CODE  
    AND ROBINST_STATUS_IND = 'A'  
INNER JOIN RCRAPP4  
    ON RCRAPP1_AIDY_CODE = RCRAPP4_AIDY_CODE  
    AND RCRAPP1_PIDM = RCRAPP4_PIDM  
    AND RCRAPP1_INFC_CODE = RCRAPP4_INFC_CODE  
    AND RCRAPP1_SEQ_NO = RCRAPP4_SEQ_NO  
    AND RCRAPP4_DOD_MATCH_FLAG = 'Y'  
    AND RCRAPP4_DOD_PAR_DEATH_DATE IS NOT NULL  
WHERE RCRAPP1_CURR_REC_IND = 'Y'  
    AND RCRAPP1_INFC_CODE = 'EDE'  
ORDER BY ROBINST_AIDY_CODE
```





# Intro to SQL

## SQL cheat sheet



### QUERYING FROM MULTIPLE TABLES

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1
INNER JOIN t2 ON condition;
Inner join t1 and t2
```

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1
LEFT JOIN t2 ON condition;
Left join t1 and t1
```

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1
RIGHT JOIN t2 ON condition;
Right join t1 and t2
```

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1
FULL OUTER JOIN t2 ON condition;
Perform full outer join
```

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1
CROSS JOIN t2;
Produce a Cartesian product of rows in tables
```

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1, t2;
Another way to perform cross join
```

```
SELECT c1, c2
FROM t1 A
INNER JOIN t2 B ON condition;
Join t1 to itself using INNER JOIN clause
```

### Basic Queries

- filter your columns  
**SELECT** col1, col2, col3, ... **FROM** table1
- filter the rows  
**WHERE** col4 = 1 **AND** col5 = 2
- aggregate the data  
**GROUP** by ...
- limit aggregated data  
**HAVING** count(\*) > 1
- order of the results  
**ORDER** BY col2

Useful keywords for **SELECTS**:

- DISTINCT** - return unique results
- BETWEEN a AND b** - limit the range, the values can be numbers, text, or dates
- LIKE** - pattern search within the column text
- IN (a, b, c)** - check if the value is contained among given.

### Data Modification

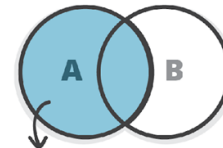
- update specific data with the **WHERE** clause  
**UPDATE** table1 **SET** col1 = 1 **WHERE** col2 = 2
- insert values manually  
**INSERT INTO** table1 (**ID**, **FIRST\_NAME**, **LAST\_NAME**)  
**VALUES** (1, 'Rebel', 'Labs');
- or by using the results of a query  
**INSERT INTO** table1 (**ID**, **FIRST\_NAME**, **LAST\_NAME**)  
**SELECT** id, last\_name, first\_name **FROM** table2

### Views

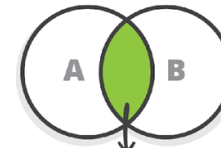
A **VIEW** is a virtual table, which is a result of a query. They can be used to create virtual tables of complex queries.

```
CREATE VIEW view1 AS
SELECT col1, col2
FROM table1
WHERE ...
```

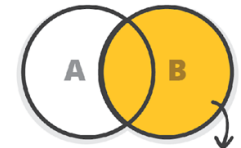
### The Joy of JOINS



**LEFT OUTER JOIN** - all rows from table A, even if they do not exist in table B



**INNER JOIN** - fetch the results that exist in both tables



**RIGHT OUTER JOIN** - all rows from table B, even if they do not exist in table A

### Updates on JOINed Queries

You can use **JOINS** in your **UPDATES**

```
UPDATE t1 SET a = 1
FROM table1 t1 JOIN table2 t2 ON t1.id = t2.t1_id
WHERE t1.col1 = 0 AND t2.col2 IS NULL;
```

NB: Use database specific syntax, it might be faster!

### Semi JOINS

You can use subqueries instead of **JOINS**:

```
SELECT col1, col2 FROM table1 WHERE id IN
(SELECT t1_id FROM table2 WHERE date >
CURRENT_TIMESTAMP)
```

### Indexes

If you query by a column, index it!  
**CREATE INDEX** index1 **ON** table1 (col1)

- Don't forget:
- Avoid overlapping indexes
- Avoid indexing on too many columns
- Indexes can speed up **DELETE** and **UPDATE** operations

### Useful Utility Functions

- convert strings to dates:  
**TO\_DATE** (Oracle, PostgreSQL), **STR\_TO\_DATE** (MySQL)
- return the first non-NULL argument:  
**COALESCE** (col1, col2, "default value")
- return current time:  
**CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP**
- compute set operations on two result sets  
**SELECT** col1, col2 **FROM** table1  
**UNION / EXCEPT / INTERSECT**  
**SELECT** col3, col4 **FROM** table2;

**Union** - returns data from both queries  
**Except** - rows from the first query that are not present in the second query

**Intersect** - rows that are returned from both queries

### Reporting

- Use aggregation functions
- COUNT** - return the number of rows
- SUM** - cumulate the values
- AVG** - return the average for the group
- MIN / MAX** - smallest / largest value

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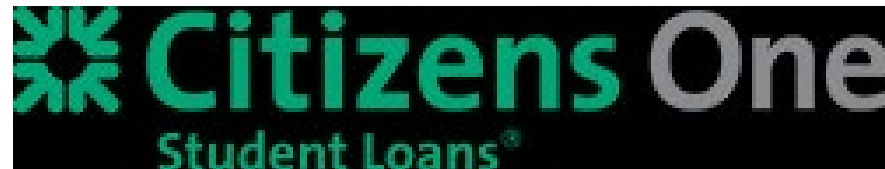


earnest

College **AVE**  
STUDENT LOANS

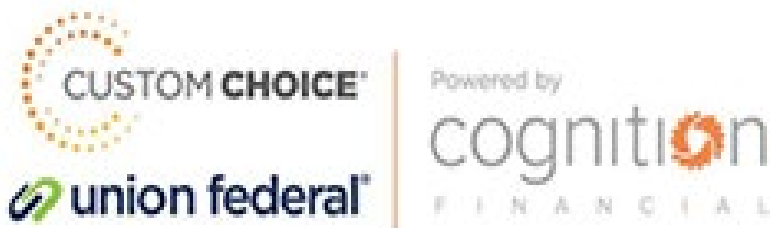


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# Questions?

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<https://www.youtube.com/c/cs50/>

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