

Student Data Warehouse Quick Reference

This document is not intended to replace the universe documentation which is available online within Business Objects as you click on each object and class, but rather to supplement it. The complete universe documentation is also available on the WSU data warehouse web page for downloading and printing.

This document is divided into 3 sections: Tips and Techniques for each Class, General Tips and Techniques, and Frequently Asked Questions.

Tips and Techniques by Class

Academic Course

Notes

- This class is term based; each term has a set of courses that are valid to be offered.

Recommended Condition Objects

- ACADEMIC TERM ID or any of the term pre-defined conditions

Academic Degree Conferment

Notes

- Use the “No Degree Conferments” pre-defined condition if you want students who do not have any degrees to show-up on your report with empty (null) information.

Recommended Condition Objects

- ac degree conferment status cd

Academic Section

Notes

- This class has a record for each course id, as the student would register for the course. So, if you are looking to get all offerings of a particular section, be sure to look for the different possible course ids for cross-listed and conjoint courses. The object {Academic Section / academic course id related} can be used to find all related course offerings of the same section.

Recommended Condition Objects

- ACADEMIC TERM ID or any of the term pre-defined conditions
- ACADEMIC CENTER ID or any of the academic center pre-defined conditions

Address

Notes

- Business activity code is also known as the address type. A student can have up to 4 different addresses, each with a different business activity code (M - Mailing, H- Home, P - Parents, WPC - Workplace).
- If you use a particular business activity code as a condition, only students that have that kind of address will be returned in your results.

Recommended Condition Objects

- BUSINESS ACTIVITY CODE or one of the “Single Address” pre-defined conditions
- Use the “No Addresses” pre-defined condition if you want students who do not have any addresses to show-up on your report with empty (null) address information.

Course Section Snapshot

Notes

- This class has a record for each course id, as the student would register for the course. So, if you are looking to get all offerings of a particular section, be sure to look for the different possible course ids for cross-listed and conjoint courses. The object {Academic Section / academic course id related} can be used to find all related course offerings of the same section.

Recommended Condition Objects

- SNAPSHOT GENERATION ID or any of the snapshot pre-defined conditions
- ACADEMIC CENTER ID or any of the academic center pre-defined conditions

Email Address

Notes

- Only students who have email-forwarding setup will have email addresses recorded here.

Recommended Condition Objects

- None

Snapshot Generation

Notes

- You can look at this class to see the available snapshots in the warehouse.

Recommended Condition Objects

- None – Generally, you should use the snapshot generation id that is in each snapshot class rather than the one in this class

Student

Notes

- Any student who was ever enrolled since the start of the warehouse (Fall of 1997) has a record in here.

Recommended Condition Objects

- Generally, you will limit the results by putting a condition on one of the other classes

Student Center Snapshot

Notes

- This class has a record for every student for each academic center (campus) in which the student is enrolled.

- Prior to Summer 1999 (19992), state funded, term-based EDP enrollments are included in Pullman. Those enrollments have 'EDP' in the object {Academic Section / city name taught}, and have 7570 (Pullman) as the academic center id.

Recommended Condition Objects

- SNAPSHOT GENERATION ID or any of the snapshot pre-defined conditions
- ACADEMIC CENTER ID or any of the academic center pre-defined conditions

Student Certificate

Notes

- Use the "No Certificates" pre-defined condition if you want students who do not have any certificates to show-up on your report with empty (null) information.

Recommended Condition Objects

- student certificate status cd

Student Course Snapshot

Notes

- This class has a record for any student who was ever enrolled in the course/section during the term, including those who have dropped it. If you want to remove students who have dropped, use a condition of "current enrollment indicator equal to 'Y'" on your query
- This class has a record for the course id as the student registered for the course. So, if you are looking to get all students in a particular section, be sure to look for the different possible course ids for cross-listed and conjoint courses. The object {Academic Section / academic course id related} can be used to find all related course offerings of the same section.

Recommended Condition Objects

- SNAPSHOT GENERATION ID or any of the snapshot pre-defined conditions
- ACADEMIC CENTER ID or any of the academic center pre-defined conditions
- CURRENT ENROLLMENT INDICATOR

Student Course Transcript

Notes

- This class has a record for every WSU course that any student in the warehouse has recorded on their transcript. This has all courses for the student, including those taken prior to the start of the data warehouse (e.g. 10 or 20 years ago) for any student that has been enrolled sometime since the Fall of 1997.
- The section number may be zero. Grades that are entered manually do not have a section number associated with them.
- EUS enrollments prior to Summer 1999, have Pullman (7570) as the academic center rather than EUS (1640) even though these enrollments have EUS as the academic center in Student Course Snapshot.
- A complete refresh of the student's transcript in the warehouse is done once a term. This usually happens several weeks after the term is over.
- If you use any objects from this class as a result or a condition, only those students with a Student Course Transcript record will be returned.

Recommended Condition Objects

- ACADEMIC TERM ID or any of the term pre-defined conditions
- ACADEMIC COURSE ID
- ACADEMIC CENTER ID or any of the academic center pre-defined conditions

Student NCATE Endorsement

Notes

- Use the “No NCATE Endorsements” pre-defined condition if you want students who do not have any NCATE endorsements to show-up on your report with empty (null) information.

Recommended Condition Objects

- None

Student Snapshot

Notes

- Only students who are enrolled in the term associated with the snapshot or were enrolled and have withdrawn during that term have a record for the particular snapshot.

Recommended Condition Objects

- SNAPSHOT GENERATION ID or any of the snapshot pre-defined conditions
- enrollment status code or “enrolled only” or “enrolled or withdrawn” pre-defined conditions

Student Transcript

Notes

- This class has a record for every term any student in the warehouse has recorded on their transcript. This has all terms for the student, including those taken prior to the start of the data warehouse (e.g. 10 or 20 years ago) for any student that has been enrolled sometime since the Fall of 1997.
- A complete refresh of the student’s transcript in the warehouse is done once a term. This usually happens several weeks after the term is over.
- If you use any objects from this class as a result or a condition, only those students with a Student Transcript record will be returned.

Recommended Condition Objects

- ACADEMIC TERM ID or any of the term pre-defined conditions

General Tips and Techniques

- Use conditions to limit the amount of data returned.
 - Always put a condition on snapshot generation id for snapshot classes.
 - If you have objects from multiple snapshot classes put a condition on the snapshot generation id for EVERY class used.
 - If the query runs for more than a few minutes, it usually means you did not do the above.
- Using a code or id rather a name or description as a condition can improve the speed of your query.
- Hitting the escape key will cancel a long running query (may need to hit it a few times).
- Try to get all the objects that you might require on the report first, then format the report.

- Start with a simple query, then add to it.
- Check the results for reasonableness.
- If you are not getting the results you expect:
 - Try removing conditions.
 - Put all objects that were in your conditions in the results, then:
 - Look for data that would not meet your conditions (e.g. nulls).
 - Look at the format of the data (e.g. dates entered as 12/31/1998).
- Use a sub-query only when necessary. Sub-queries generally take longer to run.
- Sub-queries are usually required when you want to compare two points in time (e.g. who was enrolled during the Fall term but is not enrolled for the Spring term)

Frequently Asked Questions

- How do I find out information on the available snapshots?
 - Run a query on the Snapshot Generation class
- How do I find a particular object?
 - Download the universe documentation PDF file from the WSU data warehouse web page
 - Use the find command in Adobe Acrobat Reader to search for a word, phrase or part of a word that may be in the name or definition of the object
- Why are some items missing from the list of values?
 - The lists of values are stored on your PC. The list of values is created the first time you use it, after that it is only refreshed when you click on the “Refresh” button. The exception to this is the list of values for snapshot generation id, which is refreshed every time the list is viewed. Click the “Refresh” button periodically to get an updated list of values.
- Why am I getting duplicate values in my report?
 - The most common reason for this is that you are getting data from multiple snapshot classes and have only put a condition on the snapshot generation id in one of the classes. You need to put a condition on the snapshot generation id in EVERY snapshot class used in your query.
 - Here's a general rule-of-thumb: If the class of data (e.g. Student Snapshot) you are using contains the word "Snapshot", put a condition on the snapshot generation id IN THAT CLASS. For example, Student does not have the word Snapshot in its name, so if you are getting data only from that class, you don't need to put a condition on a snapshot generation id. But, Student Snapshot does have the word "Snapshot" in its name, so you should put a condition on the snapshot generation id in Student Snapshot. If you were also getting data from Student Course Snapshot, for example, you would also put a condition on the snapshot generation id in that class as well.
- How do I know what conditions to place on my query?
 - Due to the “ad-hoc” nature of the warehouse, it’s difficult to say what conditions should be on a query; every query is different. But, in the list of classes above, there are “recommended” condition objects listed. You should consider using these in a query that uses that class.
 - Also, the objects that make each record unique are in upper case. These objects are good candidates and most of these should be included in your conditions. Here's another way to look at these objects. If you don't put one of these objects in your conditions you will get ALL records for that object. Examples: On Student, if "STUDENT WSU NUMBER" is not used as a condition, you will get ALL students returned. On Student Snapshot, if STUDENT WSU NUMBER and SNAPSHOT GENERATION ID are not used as conditions, you will get ALL students and ALL snapshots (a lot of data).
- How do I learn more about Business Objects?
 - Go through the tutorial "Getting Started with Reports"
 - Read the Business Objects “User’s Guide”

- Read the on-line Help
- Complete the Online Registration (under the Help menu)
 - You'll receive a newsletter
- Visit the Business Objects web site
 - www.businessobjects.com
- How do I learn more about the data warehouse?
 - Visit the WSU data warehouse web site at <http://www.wsu.edu/UAS/dw/>
 - Send email to and read email from the listserv
 - data_warehouse@listproc.wsu.edu
 - If you have a question that others may be able to answer, or a comment or suggestion that might be of interest to others, send it to the list.
 - If it would only be of interest to one person, send the email directly to that person.