

BUSINESS APPLICATIONS DEVELOPMENT

MIS 316

User Guide 4.0

Binding Drop Down and/or Radio Button Lists to a SQL Data Source

For this example we will use 'saved SQL statements' known as Stored Procedures in SQL to pull the data from the database table(s) and return them to your ASP.NET application.

- 1) Have your page (web form) ready for a new drop down box we will bind to a database table(s).
- 2) Set up the web page for a drop down box using Bootstrap Styles
- 3)

```
<!-- this is the beginning of a new button group note the form group class -->
<div class="form-group">
  <asp:Label ID="Label3" runat="server" Text="Major:"
  class="bold"></asp:Label>
  <asp:RequiredFieldValidator ID="RequiredFieldValidator2" runat="server"
  ErrorMessage="*Please Select" CssClass="failureNotification"
  ControlToValidate="_11majors" ValidationGroup ="_11" Display="Dynamic">
  </asp:RequiredFieldValidator>
  <br />
  <!--place your drop down list here -->

</div> <!-- this ends the button group for the drop down -->
```
- 4) From your Toolbox, and slide a drop down list into the button group you just created
- 5) Name your drop down to reflect your object in our example _11majors.
- 6) Your drop down should say "Unbound" in split view, we will now 'bind' it to a SQL statement from the database
- 7) Find the arrow to the right on the drop down list and click, select "Choose Data Source"



Choose a Data Source

Select a data source:

(None) ▾

Select a data field to display in the DropDownList:

▾

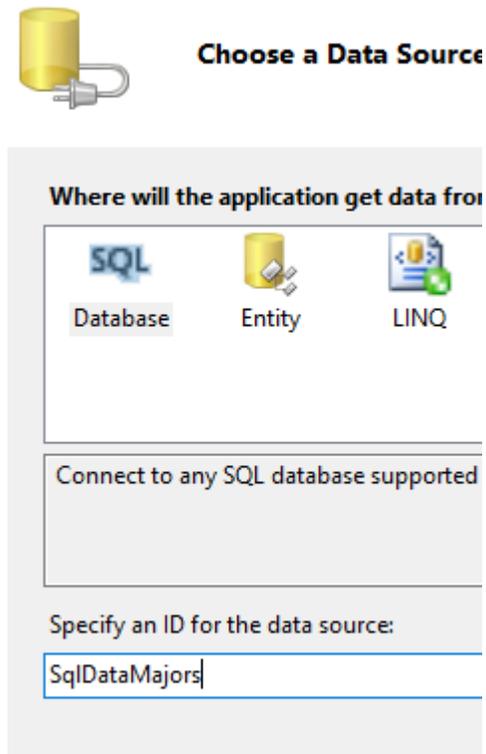
Select a data field for the value of the DropDownList:

▾

8)

- 9) Instructions for the first time you are binding to the database (if not the first time, jump to Step 13)

CSelect NEW , then select MS SQL SERVER as your Data Source and the dialog box shown will appear (*you will only need to do this once per Project for a database*)



- 10) Once you select SQL, change the ID for the data source to be SQLDataXXXX, where xxx is the name of the table
- 11) Choose NEW CONNECTION and then on the Add Connection type the following entries (see next page for image)
- Server Name: miscapstone (type this do not do a search)
 - Change Authentication to SQL Server Authentication
 - User Name: mis316
 - Password – given in class
 - Click Save My Password
 - Select MIS316 for the database name

Add Connection

Enter information to connect to the selected data source or cli data source and/or provider.

Data source:

Server name:

Log on to the server

Authentication:

User name:

Password:

Save my password

Connect to a database

Select or enter a database name:

Attach a database file:

- 12) Click Test Connection to verify your user and password are correct
- 13) Click Next on the Choose your Data Connection, if this is not your first time connecting to the database then select the miscapstone.... From the drop down list and then Next.
- 14) If it asks you to SAVE the connection string, say YES
- 15) Now it is time to 'bind' to a specific stored SQL statement (procedure), select Specify a Custom SQL statement or stored procedure



Configure the Select Statement

How would you like to retrieve data from your database?

Specify a custom SQL statement or stored procedure

Specify columns from a table or view

Name:

- 16) From the Stored Procedure drop down, select the majorsSelectAll stored SQL statement

Define Custom Statements or Stored Procedures

Click a tab to create a SQL statement for that operation.

SELECT UPDATE INSERT DELETE

SQL statement:

Stored procedure:

majorsSelectAll

- 17) Then NEXT and you can click TEST to see what the stored procedure will return

Populate the drop down or radio button list with the proper columns

- 18) Select the data field to display (you generally desire the Description field)
- 19) Select the data value field (you generally want the primary key field)
- 20) Click OK/Done and you are complete
- 21) Save your work
- 22) Test your application by clicking the green arrow to RUN, and your drop down list or radio button list should be populated!

Special Properties to modify for the Drop Down List

A. Insure that the user has selected a value

- 1) The previous steps will populate your drop down list with the items from the database so if you are using “majors” the first entry would be the first entry from the database table. However we want to insure that the user has selected a major, so we would like the entry: -Please Select- to be the first entry in the drop down list.
- 2) To accomplish: click on your drop down list, go to properties, find the ITEMS property and add an ITEM with the text property of – Please Select- and value of 0.
- 3) Also change the Append Data Bound Property to TRUE. If you do not change this then the SQL statement will just override what is in the current list object.
- 4) Finally, if you have a Required Field Validator you need to set the Initial Value to 0 (the value for the –Please Select- item), thus the Required Field Validator will know if the user does not move from the initial Please Select item in the list.