

First steps in a degree project supported by Canvas

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We will assume that a student (named “Quentin FakeStudent”) is interested in doing a degree project. Initially this student is not enrolled in a degree project course **nor** is the student in a Canvas course room. This student fills out a form (yet to be defined) that collects some basic information that can be used by someone working in the School’s education office to determine if the student is eligible to start a degree project. If the student is not eligible they are referred to student advising. If the student is eligible, the student is added to a suitable Canvas course room for their degree project. Here we assume that there is one such course room at each school for each of 1st and 2nd cycle degree project students. In the material that follows we will assume that this student is in some degree program administered by KTH’s School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. This process is shown in Figure 1.

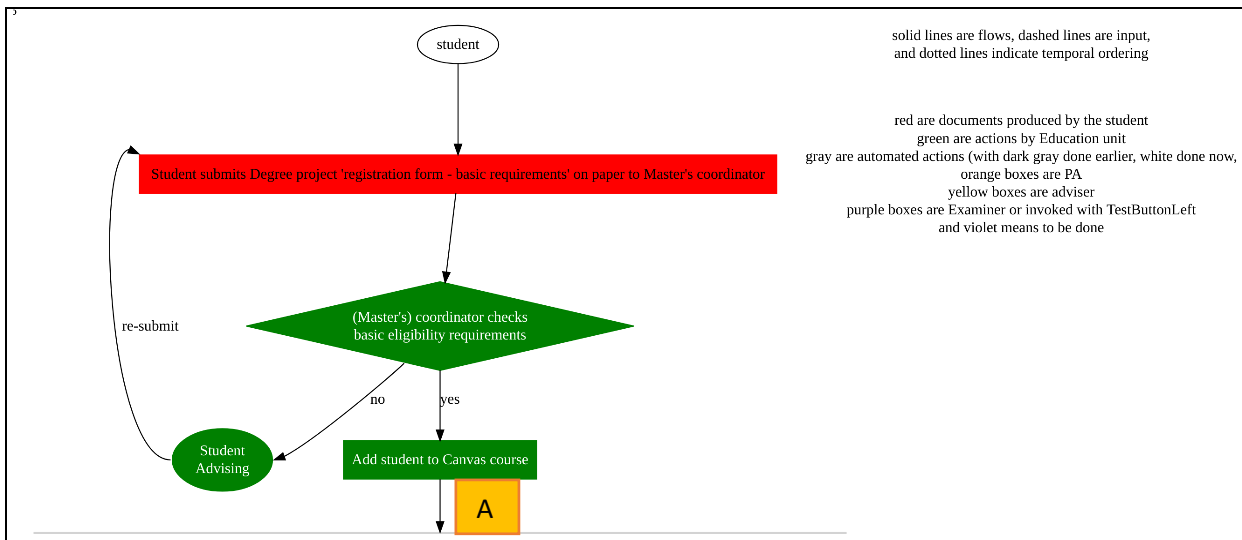


Figure 1: First steps leading to student being added to Canvas course room

Once the student is added to the Canvas course room (at point A in Figure 1) we can utilize Canvas to help with the rest of the degree project process. If we look in the Canvas course room at the “People” page, we can see all of the students and teachers in the course – as shown in Figure 2. In this page we can see that Quentin FakeStudent is a “Student” in the course “Test course 5” (this course has the fake course code J5).

The screenshot shows the 'People' page in a Canvas LMS interface. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with 'People' highlighted. The main content area displays a table of users in the course. The table has columns for Name, Login ID, SIS ID, Section, Role, Last Activity, and Total Activity. The first row shows the teacher 'chip.maguire@gmail.com'. The following 13 rows show students with names like 'Ann FakeStudent', 'Bertil FakeStudent', etc., and their respective activity data.

Name	Login ID	SIS ID	Section	Role	Last Activity	Total Activity
chip.maguire@gmail.com	chip.maguire@gmail.com	z0	Test course 5	Teacher	May 24 at 5:13pm	336:15:08
Ann FakeStudent	s1	z1	Test course 5	Student		
Bertil FakeStudent	s2	z2	Test course 5	Student	Mar 5 at 1:50pm	
Cenric FakeStudent	s3	z3	Test course 5	Student		
David FakeStudent	s4	z4	Test course 5	Student		
Ellen FakeStudent	s5	z5	Test course 5	Student	Feb 20 at 3:20pm	27:55
Fran FakeStudent	s6	z6	Test course 5	Student		
Gordon FakeStudent	s7	z7	Test course 5	Student		
Håkan FakeStudent	s8	z8	Test course 5	Student		
Ibúy FakeStudent	s9	z9	Test course 5	Student		
James FakeStudent	s10	z10	Test course 5	Student	Feb 24 at 5:35pm	45:28:30
Karolin FakeStudent	s11	z11	Test course 5	Student		
Lucy FakeStudent	s12	z12	Test course 5	Student		
Quentin FakeStudent	s13	z13	Test course 5	Student	May 24 at 12:58pm	18:20

Figure 2: Initial people page - showing students (and teachers) in course

Now that the student being has access to the Canvas course room (which they will make use of for the rest of their degree project course) the next steps are a dynamic survey to collect some basic data about the proposed degree project and some administrative processing as shown in Figure 3.

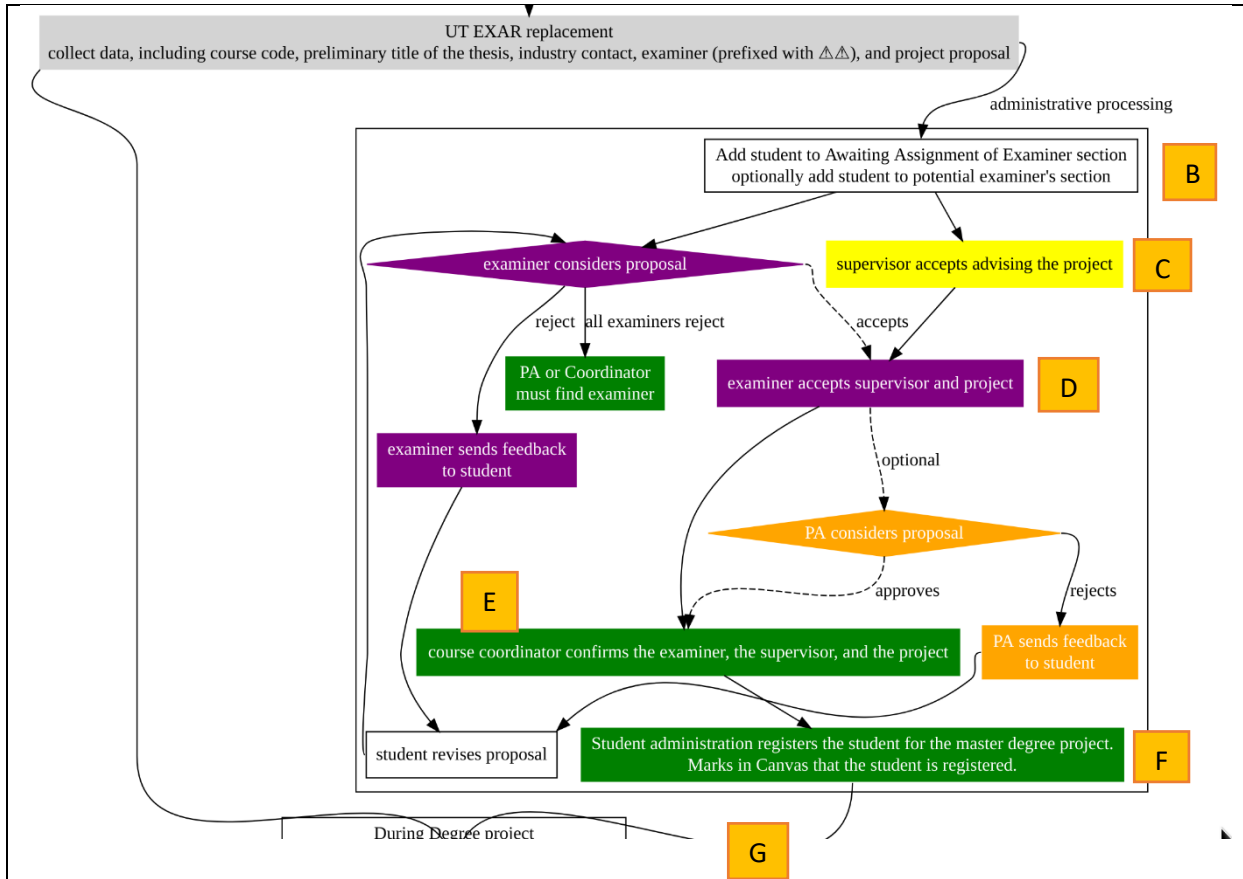


Figure 3: Dynamic survey and Administrative steps in Canvas

After logging into the Canvas course room, the student will take a dynamic survey that will collect the information that was previously collected by the UT-EXAR form. The details of this are described in the thesis:

Reshad Sarwar and Nathan Manzi, *More tools for Canvas : Realizing a Digital Form with Dynamically Presented Questions and Alternatives*. Stockholm, Sweden: KTH, Communication Systems, CoS, 2019, TRITA-EECS-EX-2019:93 [Online]. Available: <http://urn.kb.se/resolve?urn=urn%3Anbn%3Ase%3Aakth%3Adiva-251021>

The final page of the survey will confirm that the student has signed up for a given degree project course code and has selected a potential examiner (from among those that are eligible) or they have not chosen a potential examiner. In the case of Quentin FakeStudent, when he completes the dynamic survey he will see a page such as shown in Figure 4.

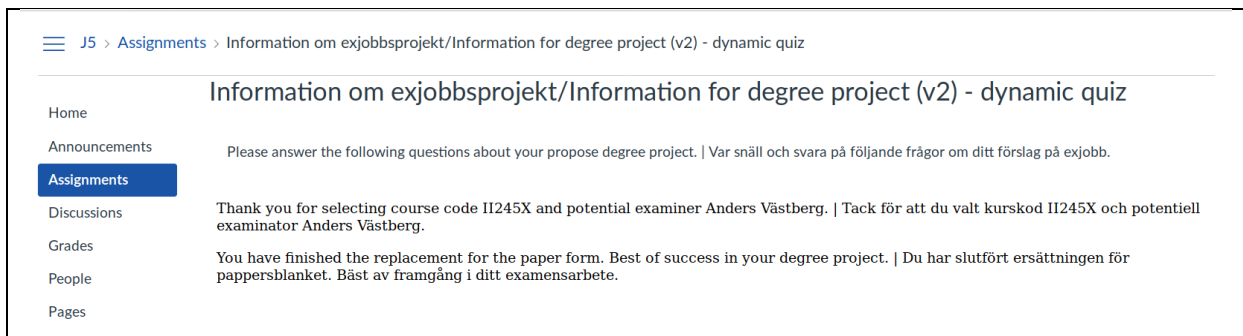


Figure 4: After student is added to Canvas course room

As a side effect of the student completing the dynamic survey the student is added to two sections: "Awaiting Assignment of Examiner" and a section for their potential examiner (in this case "Anders

Västberg”) (at step B in Figure 3). The student’s membership in these two sections can be seen via the People page, shown in Figure 5.

Name	Login ID	SIS ID	Section	Role	Last Activity	Total Activity
chip.maguire@gmail.com	chip.maguire@gmail.com	z0	Test course 5	Teacher	May 24 at 5:19pm	336:21:28
Ann FakeStudent	s1	z1	Test course 5	Student		
Bertil FakeStudent	s2	z2	Test course 5	Student	Mar 5 at 1:50pm	
Cenric FakeStudent	s3	z3	Test course 5	Student		
David FakeStudent	s4	z4	Test course 5	Student		
Ellen FakeStudent	s5	z5	Test course 5	Student	Feb 20 at 3:20pm	27:55
Fran FakeStudent	s6	z6	Test course 5	Student		
Gordon FakeStudent	s7	z7	Test course 5	Student		
Håkan FakeStudent	s8	z8	Test course 5	Student		
Ibdiy FakeStudent	s9	z9	Test course 5	Student		
James FakeStudent	s10	z10	Test course 5	Student	Feb 24 at 5:35pm	45:28:30
Karolin FakeStudent	s11	z11	Test course 5	Student		
Lucy FakeStudent	s12	z12	Test course 5	Student		
Quentin FakeStudent	s13	z13	Test course 5 Awaiting Assignment of Examiner Anders Västberg	Student Student Student	May 24 at 5:18pm May 24 at 5:18pm	18:20

Figure 5: People page after the student has completed the dynamic survey

Additionally, the dynamic survey also updated a number of custom columns in the gradebook for the course. These columns are shown in Figure 6, with a zoomed in view in Figure 7.

Student Name	Secondary ID	Course_code	Planned_start...	Tentative_title	Prelim_descrip...	Examiner	Supervisor	KTH_unit	Place	Contact	Student_appro...	Projekt Plan/Project plan	Utsatt till/Draft for opponent	Examenarbete/Examinando/Final L...	Information on
Quentin FakeStudent Anders Västberg, Awaiting A	s13	Δ.Δ.II245X	2019-05-24	A sort title for a sh	This thesis project Δ.Δ.Anders Västbe				company = A big	Ann TheBoss <Ann	yes, to, diva				

Figure 6: Gradebook entry for Quentin - as viewed in the Awaiting Assignment of Examiner section

Student Name	Secondary ID	Course_code	Planned_start...	Tentative_title	Prelim_descrip...	Examiner	Supervisor	KTH_unit	Place	Contact	Student_appro...
Quentin FakeStudent Anders Västberg, Awaiting A	s13	Δ.Δ.II245X	2019-05-24	A sort title for a sh	This thesis project Δ.Δ.Anders Västbe	Δ.Δ.Anders Västbe			company = A big	Ann TheBoss <Ann	yes, to, diva

Figure 7: Zoomed via of gradebook entry for Quentin - as viewed in the Awaiting Assignment of Examiner section

In Figure 7 we can see that the choice of potential examiner is flagged with a prefix of “ΔΔ”. Similar the course code is also prefixed in the same way so that we know that these are not the definitive values. We can also see that the fields of “Planned_start_date”, “Tentative Title”, “Prelim_description”, “Place”, “Contact”, and “Student_approval” (to publish full text via DiVA). The values for these fields were collected via the dynamic survey.

A potential supervisor (named “A. B. Normal”) reads the project description and if they are interested registers as the supervisor (at step C in Figure 3) by entering their name in the field for “Supervisor” in the gradebook as shown in Figure 8.

The screenshot shows a web interface for a gradebook. At the top, there is a navigation menu with a hamburger icon and the text 'J5 > Grades'. Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Filter by student name or secondary ID'. The main content is a table with the following columns: Student Name, Secondary ID, Course_code, Planned_start..., Tentative_title, Prelim_descrip..., Examiner, and Supervisor. A single row is visible with the following data: Student Name: Quentin FakeStudent (Anders Västberg, Awaiting A), Secondary ID: s13, Course_code: ΔΔII245X, Planned_start...: 2019-05-24, Tentative_title: A sort title for a sh, Prelim_descrip...: This thesis project, Examiner: ΔΔAnders Västbe, Supervisor: A. B. Normal.

Student Name	Secondary ID	Course_code	Planned_start...	Tentative_title	Prelim_descrip...	Examiner	Supervisor
Quentin FakeStudent Anders Västberg, Awaiting A	s13	ΔΔII245X	2019-05-24	A sort title for a sh	This thesis project	ΔΔAnders Västbe	A. B. Normal

Figure 8: After adding supervisor (A. B. Normal)

The potential examiner accepts being the examiner by removing the warning symbols (at step D in Figure 3) by editing the field shown in Figure 9 into the value shown in Figure 10.

The screenshot shows a modal dialog box over a table. The table has columns: course_code, Planned_start..., Tentative_title, Prelim_descrip..., Examiner, Supervisor, KTH_unit, and Place. The dialog box is focused on the 'Examiner' column, which contains the text 'ΔΔAnders Västberg'. The dialog has 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom.

course_code	Planned_start...	Tentative_title	Prelim_descrip...	Examiner	Supervisor	KTH_unit	Place
ΔΔII245X	2019-05-24	A sort title for a sh	ΔΔAnders Västberg				company = A big cAnn

Figure 9; Examiner about to accept

The screenshot shows the same table as in Figure 9, but the modal dialog is now closed. The 'Examiner' field in the table now contains the text 'Anders Västberg' without the warning symbols.

Student Name	Secondary ID	Course_code	Planned_start...	Tentative_title	Prelim_descrip...	Examiner	Supervisor
Quentin FakeStudent Anders Västberg, Awaiting A	s13	ΔΔII245X	2019-05-24	A sort title for a sh		Anders Västberg	

Figure 10: Examiner accepts

The course coordinator confirms the examiner, supervisor, and project (at step E in Figure 3) by removing the student from the "Awaiting Assignment of Examiner" section as shown in Figure 11 to produce the membership shown in Figure 12. The people page now shows the updated section information shown in Figure 13. This student is now longer in the "Awaiting Assignment of Examiner" section as shown in Figure 14.

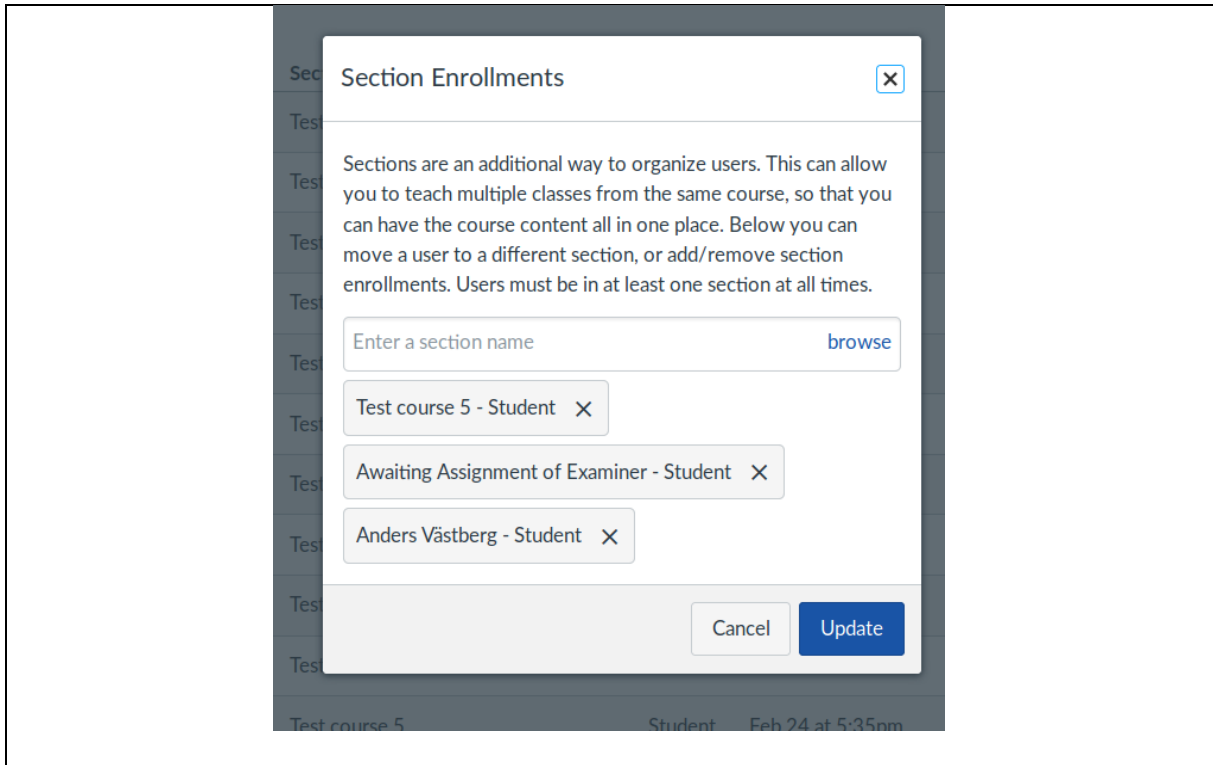


Figure 11: Section membership just before course coordinator confirms

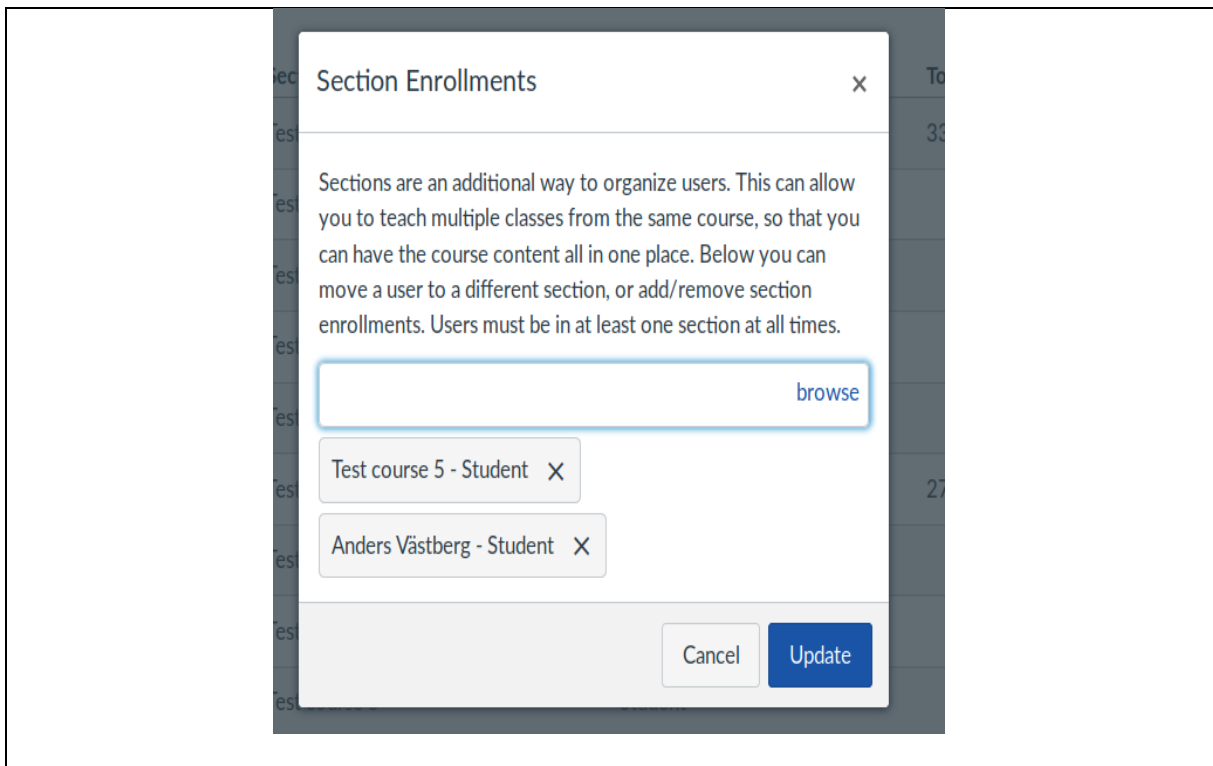


Figure 12: Just after course coordinator confirms

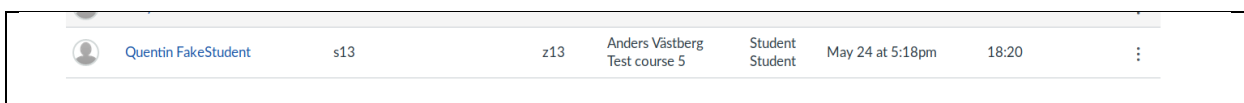


Figure 13: Updated section membership information

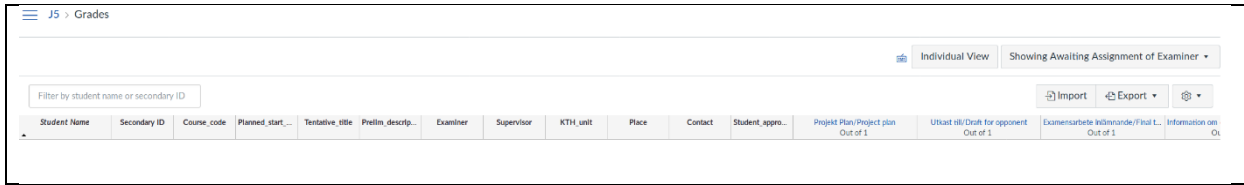


Figure 14: Gradebook for "Awaiting Assignment of Examiner" section after course coordinator confirms

After registering the student in Ladok for the correct degree project course, the education office removes the two warning signs for the Course_code (or in the worst case corrects the entry) as shown in Figure 15. The resulting entry in the gradebook is now shown in Figure 16.

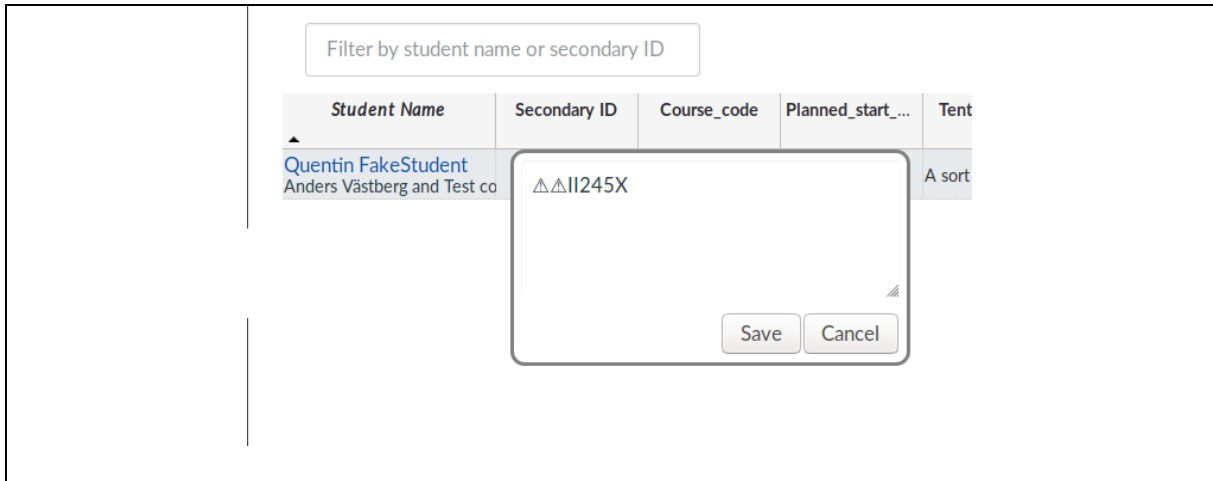


Figure 15: Just before registering student in Ladok

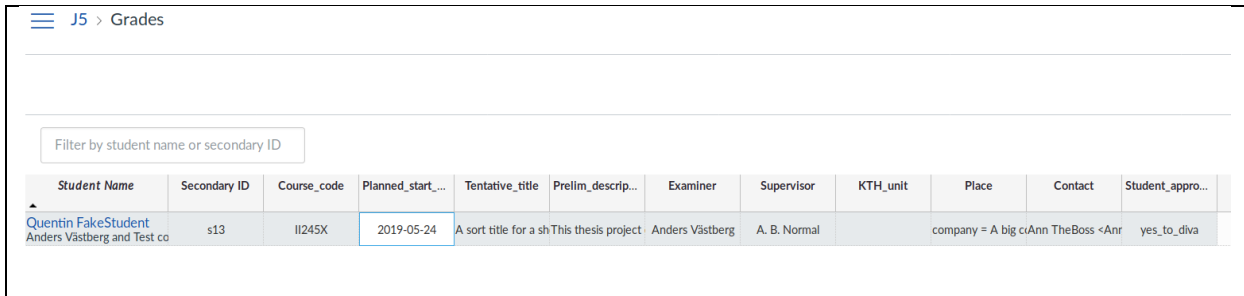


Figure 16: Gradebook after student is registered in Ladok

The student can now begin to prepare the various documents to be delivered in the course of the degree project (starting at step G in Figure 3).