

SELECT DISTINCT

SELECT DISTINCT attributes
FROM relation-list
WHERE qualification

The DISTINCT keyword eliminates any duplicate tuples returned by the query. This can happen if the query does not include the key from the relation. See the query below:

```
mysql> describe class
-> ;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| Field  | Type  | Null | Key | Default | Extra |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ClassID | char(20) | NO | PRI |          |       |
| TimeOffered | char(10) | YES |     | NULL     |       |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
2 rows in set (0.11 sec)
```

```
mysql> SELECT TimeOffered from class;
```

```
+-----+
| TimeOffered |
+-----+
| 11-12:15   |
| NULL       |
| 11-12:15   |
+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> SELECT DISTINCT TimeOffered FROM class;
```

```
+-----+
| TimeOffered |
+-----+
| 11-12:15   |
| NULL       |
+-----+
2 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

The SELECT DISTINCT returns the true relation as we learned in the relational algebra section – one without duplicate tuples.