

# Week 8: Midterm Exam

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CIS 086 • PHP and MySQL • Mission College

# Grades so far

- Some of the quizzes have the wrong number of points.
  - (1 point per question vs. 5 points per question)
- See the spreadsheet in the Week 8 folder on Angel
  - Your grade is keyed to the last 4 digits of your student ID
  - A = 1 students
  - B = 5 students
  - C = 5 students
  - D or below = 5 students
- If your grade is C or below, it means you did not turn in all the work yet. You can still turn in your work for partial credit.
  - Late penalty: 80% credit within 72 hours (20% penalty).
  - 50% credit after 72 hours (50% penalty).

# Grading

- 20% - Quizzes
  - About 2% each for 10 weeks
- 40% - Weekly Exercises and Term Project
  - 30% Weekly exercises (about 3% each for 10 weeks)
  - 10% Term Project
- 20% - Midterm Exam
  - 10% Multiple-choice portion on Angel
  - 10% Programming or "hands-on" portion
- 20% - Final Exam
  - 10% Multiple-choice portion on Angel
  - 10% Programming or "hands-on" portion

# Due Dates

- **Due last week:**
  - Chapter 11 Homework – Forms
  - Prototype term project
- **Due tonight:**
  - Week 5 Quiz (Strings) (7 people have not taken it yet)
  - Week 6 Quiz (Forms) (7 people have not taken it yet)
  - Integration – term project broken into parts in PHP
- **Due next Thursday:**
  - Midterm exam coding portion
  - Midterm exam multiple choice portion (not posted yet)

# Late Homework

- It doesn't hurt to send me a message through Canvas or an email at [markb@mixed-up.com](mailto:markb@mixed-up.com).
- I usually save up the emails until I get a pile of them and a chunk of time, so don't be concerned if I don't re-grade it right away.

# Dropping the Course

- The last day to drop the course is November 18.
- Don't wait until the last minute, because your internet might go down or the Mission College computer might become overloaded with drop requests.
- You will receive a "W" grad on your permanent record.

# Feedback

- Do you feel like you are learning PHP, or just typing in what the book says without really understanding?

# Upcoming Topics

Week	Chapter	Topic	Expectation
9	6	Arrays	Easy
10	7	Files	Difficult
11	8	MySQL basics	Easy to Middling
12	10	MySQL with PHP	Middling to Difficult
13	—		
14	12	Cookies & Sessions	Difficult



# Comments

- HTML comments
  - `<!-- this is an HTML comment -->`
- CSS comments
  - `/* this is a CSS comment */`
- PHP comments
  - `/* this is a PHP comment ...`  
it can span more than one line `*/`
  - `$foobar = true; // this is a PHP comment that is one line to end of line`
  - `$meaning = 42; # this is a PHP comment that is one line to end of line`
- See the examples

# index.html

- If you have an index.html file in your directory, the server will open it automatically if you just reference the directory in your URL.
  - `http://php.missioncollege.edu/group49/index.html`  
is the same as  
`http://php.missioncollege.edu/group49/`  
but the latter URL is friendlier
- If there is an index.php file in your directory, and no index.html file, the server will open the index.php file automatically if you just reference the directory in your URL.
- Having an index.html file or index.php file prevents users from seeing a directory listing of your site.

# GET vs. POST

GET	POST
If it doesn't change anything in the database or the environment.	If it changes something in the database or environment.
If there are no side effects.	If there are side effects.
If it's OK to have data exposed in the URL query string.	If it's not OK to have data exposed.
If it's safe to execute "speculatively" (i.e. just try it out).	If it's not safe to execute speculatively.
When the query is a small string.	When the query would be very large and make the URL too long.
When there is no sensitive information in the query.	When there is sensitive information like user names and passwords in the query.
For a "query" form.	For a "change something" form.

# Escaping from HTML

- <http://php.net/manual/en/language.basic-syntax.phpmode.php>

# Mail

- The mail() function works only if your computer is configured to do it.
- The php.missioncollege.edu server has mail() configured properly.
- It may not be easy to configure your home computer to do it.
- I'm not sure if there are other textbook exercises that require use of the mail() function.

# Complex String Syntax

- There are rules for when complex string syntax is required.
- The rule of thumb is that complex string syntax should be used if there is any possibility that your variable name could be confused for something else.
- Array elements generally do not require complex string syntax, but some array elements indexed by a variable index may require it.
- <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/5571624/what-does-mean-in-php-syntax>
- <http://php.net/manual/en/language.types.string.php>

# Midterm Exam: What to expect

- Two parts:
  - Multiple Choice
  - Hands-On
- I will try to make both parts of the final exam available as soon as possible.
- No late submissions will be accepted. No grace period. If you don't turn in the exam on time, it's probably not possible to pass the course.

# Midterm Exam: Multiple Choice

- Canvas
- About 50 questions
- Mostly questions from previous quizzes
- There may be some questions from the Thursday night class sessions. All the PowerPoints are available on the Materials web site.
- There will probably be a time limit of about 3 hours. Once you start the exam, you'll have 3 hours to finish it. You cannot stop and come back later.



# Midterm Exam: Hands-On

- PHP/HTML Programming Project
- Two-part form processing
  - An HTML file that has the form
  - A separate PHP that does the processing
- How to turn it in:
  - Create a "Midterm" folder in your account if you haven't done so already.
  - Upload both files to the "Midterm" folder.
  - Provide a link so I can run your program from you home page.
  - There are specific instructions within the assignment itself.