

PHP Exercises

One

In your web publishing area, create a folder/directory called *lab8*. You will need to place all the files and folders used in this lab inside this folder so as to not conflict with previous lab work. From Lab 8 at barryavery.com download the zip file containing *main.php*, *layout.php*, *database.php* and *styles.css*

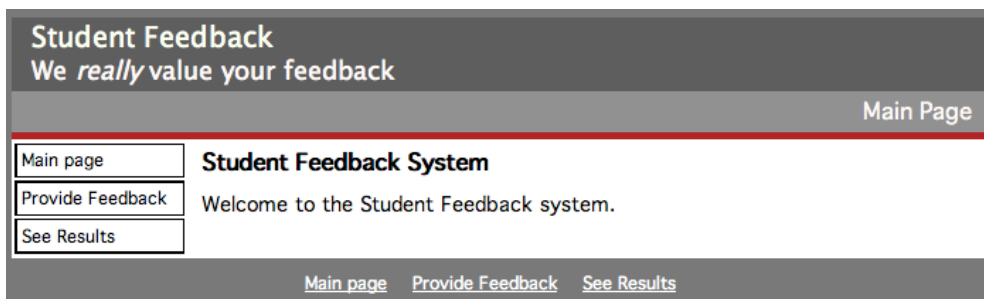
Carefully place the files in the correct locations

- *main.php* should be placed in the *lab8* folder

Now create (**inside** *lab8*) a folder called *resources*. Place the following files **INSIDE** this folder

- *layout.php* INTO *resources*
- *database.php* INTO *resources*
- *styles.css* INTO *resources*

Open *main.php* in a browser to see if everything is working. You should get a working main page that looks like this:



Two – Altering *main.php* to add links for a FAQ

Most sites have a Frequently Asked Questions page – the next steps will create one and add it to the site.

Open *main.php* in an appropriate text editor.

Add an entry for the FAQ to the leftsidebar and footer div:

```
<a href="faq.php">FAQ</a>
```

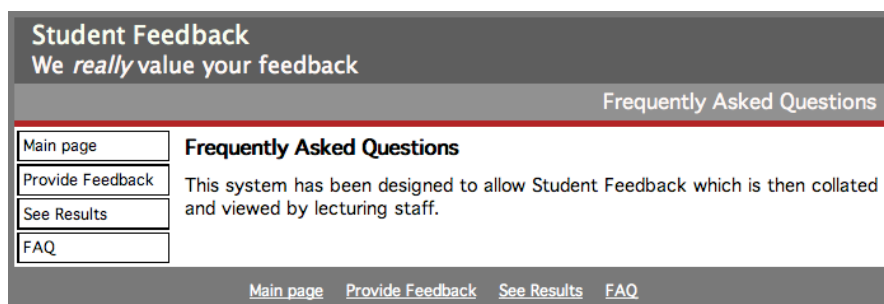
Save the file and check it in a browser to see if it displays correctly.

Three – Creating *faq.php*

To save time, the FAQ can be based *main.php*:

Copy *main.php* to create a new file *faq.php*

- Open *faq.php* in an appropriate text editor and make the following changes:
- Change the banner text to say Frequently Asked Questions
- Add a title and body text as shown in the picture (next page)



Test *faq.php* in a browser window to ensure that it works correctly

Four – Getting database.php to work correctly

Create a new database called lab8 – use the phpmyadmin web interface.

To get *database.php* working, you will have to insert your username, database name and password into the correct line.

Open *database.php* (inside the *resources* folder) in an appropriate text editor and change the *openDatabase()* function so that it has your values for *databaseaddress*, *username*, *password* and *databasename*:

```
function openDatabase()  
{  
mysql_connect('databaseaddress', 'username', 'password');  
mysql_select_db("lab8");  
};
```

Save the file.

Five – Testing the database connection by creating a responses table

From the zip file, place *CreateResponsesLab.php* INTO lab8

Bring this page up in a browser to

Create a connection to your database
Create a table called responsesLab8
Insert sample records into responsesLab8
Close the connection

You can test this by either using the mysql monitor or the web interface with the SQL `select * from responsesLab8`

Parts Six and Seven are harder

Six – creating the See Results menu item

Copy *main.php* to create a file called *results.php*

Edit this page to:

- Display a form with a drop down box with the courses listed (BIT, BIM or AIS)
- Display a button with the text 'see results for this course'
- Make the form response page *seeresults.php*
- Choose whether the *method* should be GET or POST

Seven –creating the seeresults.php

Using the database functions *openDatabase()*, *useDatabase()* and *closeDatabase()*, create a file that will display the results for the selected course from the *results.php* page. You will need to -

- Use the appropriate `$_GET` or `$_POST` array to capture the selection from the form
- Use a SQL statement that looks something like `"select * from responsesLab8 where coursetitle='".$courseTitle.'";`
- Process the results using a while loop
- Extract the rows using an appropriate mysql function (`mysql_fetch_array`)
- Display the row (perhaps using a HTML table).