

# *Connecting MySQL Databases using PHP*

Fall 2006

## PHP Overview

---

- It is as C/C++ programming language
- Variable names are preceded by \$.
- PHP code must be enclosed between  
`<?php`  
    yourcode  
`?>`
- String are between “ and ”.

## PHP Overview – cont.

---

- Each line must be ended by a ;
- Can insert the variable value inside a string as follows:
  - “You will see the variable value here->”.\$var
  - “You will see the variable value here->\$var”
- Dot between two sentences means concatenation.

## PHP Overview – cont.

---

- Can be inserted in separated file
- Can be embedded in HTML file
- The file that contain any PHP code must be saved as .php
- To display text to the HTML document:  
`print(“text”);`

## Get Ready

---

You must have

- Database in MySQL
- SQL Query
- Form in HTML

## Prepare Database Connection

---

1. Save the connection information in variables (names is your preferences).
  - `$database = "the_database_name";`
  - `$host = "localhost"` (if you want to test on your computer. Otherwise, ask your Web Host).
  - `$username = "root"`
  - `$password = ""`

## Prepare Database Connection

---

2. Use `mysql_connect()` function.
  - `$con = mysql_connect($host, $username, $password);`
3. Select database using `mysql_select_db()`:
  - `mysql_select_db($database);`

## Execute Queries

---

1. Store your query in a variable:  
`$query = "select * from 'table' ";`
2. Use `mysql_query()` function:
  - `$result = mysql_query($query, $con);`
3. Choose the row first row:
  - `$row = mysql_fetch_row($result);`
  - `$row` will equal `FALSE` if no more rows is available.

## Execute Queries – cont.

---

4. Now, the row will be treated as an array the fields will be ordered as they are selected:
  - \$row[0] // first field
  - \$row[1] // second field

## Where to save your code

---

- You have to store your whole website folder in the '**www**' folder at the AppServ installation folder:

**[your\_Drive]://AppServ/www**