

SERVER-SIDE WEB PROGRAMMING UNIT3: STORING INFORMATION WITH DATABASES

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1. Autoloading Classes & Use

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- The first thing we need to understand before explaining the use of *autoloading* capabilities and *use* keyword, are the **NAMESPACES**.
- You are already familiar with them if you think about packages in Java:
 - ▣ Remember how you were able to use other classes from outside your project/package, importing the package of the class you wanted to use.
 - ▣ The name of the classes could be the same, because they their scope was different → the namespace was different.

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□ NAMESPACES:

- As the size of your PHP code library increases, the more likely you will accidentally reuse a function or class name that has been declared before.
Example: Database class.
- Name collision problems can be solved with namespaces.
- PHP constants, classes, and functions can be grouped into *namespaced libraries*.

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- Until now, we have make use of **require** keyword in order to make use of classes.
- With the next exercise, you are going to understand the use of namespaces.

A.3.13. :

Now we are going to watch this [video](#) about how to use namespaces in our projects and complete it in our own also to see if we understand the difference.



1. Autoloading Classes & Use

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- Namespaces are also useful for AUTOLOADING classes:
 - Many developers writing object-oriented applications create one PHP source file per class definition.
 - Imagine, if you would have to load at the beginning of every project every single class in a non-automatic way...
 - There is a php method to do this:
spl_autoload_register()
 - Watch this video in order to better understand how it works.

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A.3.14. :

Before continuing with ORM, I want you to watch and fulfill this [video](#). Inside there are two parts:

- 1) Until minute 6:59: Learn how to use a basic autoload using **COMPOSER**. Install composer on your computers and COMPLETE all steps until that minute.
- 2) From minute 6:59 until the end: Learn how [PSR-4 specification](#) works and see how can it be usefull for large projects (all PHP frameworks use this spec in order to load its own Libraries). But just watch and understand.

2. ORM use

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- Until now we just have learn, what namespaces are and how to load namespaced classes into a project. This is going to be helpful for this section.
- We will use Eloquent as an ORM and in order to do so we will need to have Composer installed in our computers.
- Let's continue with it in the next part...