Homework 2- Written Report

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Introduction

The homework assignment was one question split into five sections labeled a to b. The assignment was to build off of the previous homework and expand our registration page by using a MySQL database. I validated the inputs, created a MySQL database named 'mycompany'. In the database, I created several tables labeled users, profiles, products, and purchase_info. I then connected the database to the registration page. Several functionalities were added using CRUD operations. Finally, I made the interface more user-friendly.

What I have done

Question One

I validated the inputs generated from the registration page in the action page. I included my "init.php" which, initialized my configuration, connected to the database, flash class to access variables, email config/generator, product class, profile class, purchase class, and user class. I then created my database named "company", with five tables. Each table had an id that connected to the other table. I created several different PHP pages to help myself test each section. In order to go through all the requirements (all users, validation, edit, delete, and update) I broke off each section as its own and tested the code. I did this to make sure that it worked, and then I combined it together. In order to email the confirmation registration, I had to do more research on mailing. I ended up going with phpmailer. I had to download phpmailer zip file from GitHub to be able to access it. There was a bit of misunderstanding at first with using phpmailer but I eventually figured it out. I also created a Gmail account to test that my phpmailer code was working. For the interface of this homework, I decided to go with a more formal-looking landing page than the one I created in homework one. I used a pure.css

style sheet that was online to format the way it looked.

Problem Faced

The main problem I faced was just adding code to each section and not separating it. I had long hours of staying up until five or six am for several days in a row to try and understand my mistakes. When I fixed one problem another problem happened. Halfway through writing my program I started over from scratch. I decided to start over and do section by section making sure it worked then adding each section back together one at a time and debugging what needed to be debugged. The mailing information was the hardest at first until I just watched a bunch of youtube videos and followed step by step until something worked. Although, I faced a lot of problems I learned a lot through this process and I am getting a better understanding of how to use PHP.

Summary

In conclusion, this project was a challenging experience. I learned a lot from the work that I did. I would start one section at a time next time when adding code. I would also, not stay up until five am for several days in a row. I just didn't work well from a lack of sleep. I am enjoying the homework and building on it each time to get a better understanding of web development.