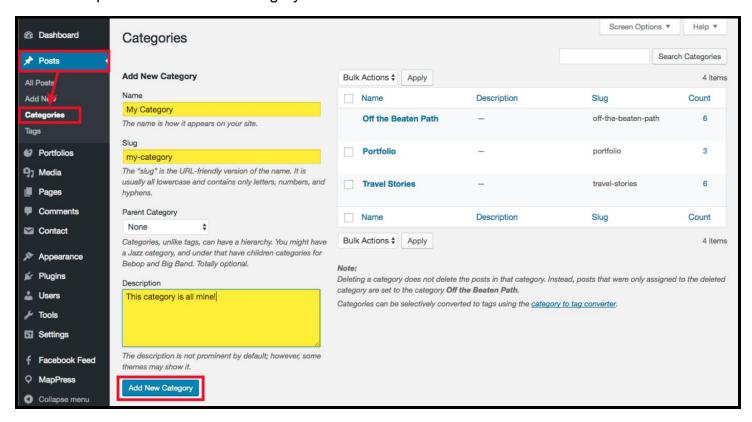# Wordpress for Web Development: Lab 3

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Create a category and display posts from only that category

There can be only one "posts" page on a WordPress website, but how would you create multiple pages that filter your posts by one or more categories?

The first step is to create a new category:

Next assign the category to some posts:

Open the index.php page template and save it as "**page-my_category.php**."

Create a new page template inside this new page using the "Template Name" constructor inside php comments at the top of the page:

```php
<?php /* Template Name: My Category Template  */ ?>

<?php get_header(); ?>

<section id="container"> <!-- Holds content & sidebar →

<?php if (have_posts()) : while (have_posts()) : the_post(); ?>

<!--  The rest of the page continues below  -->
```

Create a new variable named $my_cat and set it as a new WP_Query().

- Take note of the "$" character in front of the variable name. This is required in PHP.
- If a variable name is made up of multiple words, either remove all spaces or bridge words together with an underscore "_" character.

```php
<?php /* Template Name: My Category Template  */ ?>

<?php get_header(); ?>

<section id="container"> <!-- Holds content & sidebar →

$my_cat = new WP_Query();

<?php if (have_posts()) : while (have_posts()) : the_post(); ?>

<!--  The rest of the page continues below  -->
```

Set the new $my_cat Query to take on the properties of have_posts() in all three parts of the opening loop using the "->" operator:

```php
<?php $my_cat = new WP_Query();

if ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) :
while ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) : $my_cat->the_post(); ?>

<!-- The rest of the page continues below -->
```
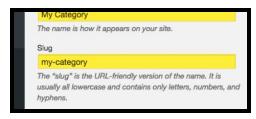
We need to define what the `WP_Query()` searches for. We will use a variable named `$args` and set it as an array to hold some of the built-in search settings inside `WP_Query()`.

The "=>" operator is an associative operator. It puts the "value" on it's right into the `WP_Query()` property on its left.

```php
<?php $args = array(
    'post_type'      => 'post',
    'post_status'    => 'publish',
    'category_name'  => '', // <- the category slug goes here
    'posts_per_page' => '6',
);

$my_cat = new WP_Query( $args );

if ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) :
while ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) : $my_cat->the_post(); ?>

<!-- The rest of the page continues below -->
```

The category name is what was set in the "slug" field when you created the category.

My Category
The name is how it appears on your site.

Slug

my-category

The "slug" is the URL-friendly version of the name. It is usually all lowercase and contains only letters, numbers, and hyphens.

The completed Query

```php
<?php $args = array(
       'post_type'      => 'post',
       'post_status'    => 'publish',
       'category_name'  => 'my-category',
       'posts_per_page' => '6',
);

$my_cat = new WP_Query( $args );

if ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) :
while ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) : $my_cat->the_post(); ?>

<!--  The rest of the page continues below  -->
```
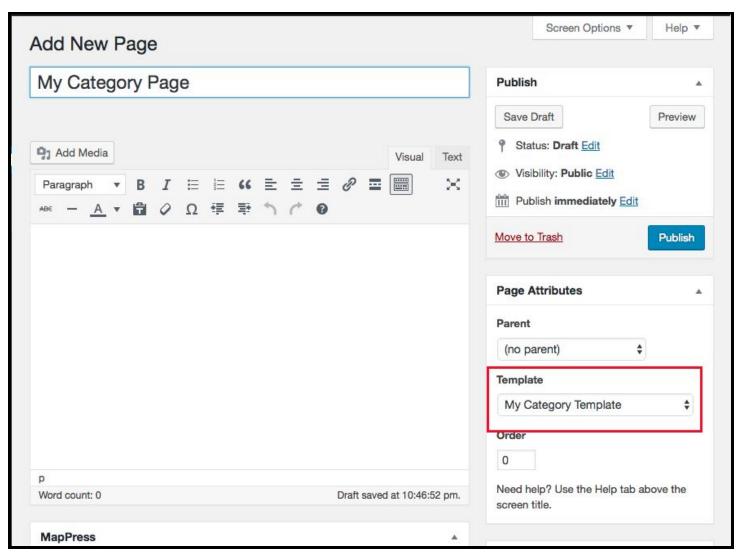
On the next page, see the whole page template code.

```php
<?php /* Template Name: My Category Template */ ?>

<?php get_header(); ?>

<section id="container"> <!-- Holds content & sidebar -->

<?php $args = array(
    'post_type'      => 'post',
    'post_status'    => 'publish',
    'category_name'  => 'my-category',
    'posts_per_page' => '6',
);

$my_cat = new WP_Query( $args );

if ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) :
while ( $my_cat->have_posts() ) : $my_cat->the_post(); ?>

    <section id="content"><!-- The main web content -->

      <h2 class="site-title"><?php the_title(); ?></h2>

          <?php the_content(); ?>

    </section> <!-- End of content -->

<?php endwhile; ?>
<?php else : ?>

<section id="content"><!-- The main web content -->

    <h2 class="site-title">Nothing Found</h2>
    <p>Couldn't find the content you were looking for</p>

</section> <!-- End of content -->

<?php endif; ?>

<?php get_sidebar(); ?>

<section id="container"> <!-- Holds content & sidebar -->

<?php get_footer(); ?>
```

In the WordPress dashboard, create a new page and select the "My Category Template" template.

Name the page publish it and view the page to see your posts.

1. Publish the page
2. View the page