Setup and test your user account on Mercury

Step 1: Log into the web server to setup your account.

A web account is needed to test and run your web (HTML and PHP) pages. For this purpose every student is assigned a web server account on the Apache server at "mercury.swin.edu.au".

Use "Putty", a SSH client (available on most lab computers under Start>Programs>Network) to log onto the mercury server with username, s<your 7-digital Swinburne ID>, (for example, s1234567) and your password, which is initially set as your date of birth (BOD) in <ddmmyy> format, or your SIMS password. If you have an account on mercury before, the account should be resumed for use in this semester.

For the first time users, the web server, Mercury, will ask you to change this password to complete the setup.

Step 1 is only done once. This is basically to set your new password.

Step 2: Connect to the Web server to transfer files.

To test your Web pages, we need to first place them on the Mercury server. We can use "WinSCP", a Secure Copy and Paste file transfer client (available on most lab computers under Start>Programs>Network).

Use WinSCP to log into Mercury server with the host name "mercury.swin.edu.au", your Mercury username s<your 7-digital Swinburne ID> and your Mercury password.

After a successful login, you will be able to see the unit folder "cos80021".

Step 3: Create a folder to contain your web Connect to the web server to transfer files.

It is recommended that we create a folder for each web project. For instance, we should create a folder named "lab01" to contain all files that we will be developing for this lab. Please note that the web server, mercury, is case sensitive.

Use WinSCP to create a folder "lab01" under ~/<unitcode>/www/htdocs folder in mercury.

Step 4: Transfer your web pages to the web server.

To be able to run your web pages, you must place the files into ~/<unitcode>/www/htdocs folder on mercury or any of its subfolders.

Use WinSCP to drag and drop your web pages from your local machine to the htdocs/lab01 folder.

Step 5: Test and view web pages.
To view the pages through http, use any web browser and type in the following address:

http://mercury.swin.edu.au/<unitcode>/<username>/<folder/.../filename>

The username is s<your 7-digit Swinburne ID>. When the authorization request dialog pops up, use your SIMS username and password to confirm access.