Homework 10, part 1, Get ready: php and MySQL Practical Experience

Your database and its output must be operational by the end of finals week, midnight on May 16th, 2014.   I will log into your account and visit your working database to grade this project.

You will have until the end of the semester to mess around with your own hosted database to practice the design and implementation concepts that we have studied this semester.

The basics of the assignment are:
- From a database description you will
    - Design a database in 3rd normal form (10 points)
    - Build the database on the school host server using phpMyAdmin and MySQL (10 points)
    - Build a user interface to query and display the data using html and php. (10 points)
    - Produce certain required query results from the database you built. (10 points)

Get Ready….

Install VPN if you don't have it already. You cannot get to the hosted platform without it.

Do you have the university's VPN client installed on your computer? If not please go here https://itservices-web.ucdenver.edu/VPN/ and login with your University account, accept the user agreement and then you will be directed to a page with the client and instructions on how to install it. After you connect with the VPN you will be able to reach the servers.

Visit the php site - understand connection strings and index.html start page
Spend an hour here: http://us.php.net/

PHP is a widely-used general-purpose scripting language that is especially suited for Web development and can be embedded into HTML. If you are new to PHP and want to get some idea of how it works, try the introductory tutorial. After that, check out the online manual.

You can install php on your own machine if you like, but the hosted server is the only place where I will grade your database so you will need to transfer working files to the server before the homework deadline.

Visit the MySQL site and tutorial. MySQL is the dbms that you will be using (via phpMyAdmin) to build the structure of the database from your normalized ER diagram.
We will use the open source dbms, MySQL. Visit http://www.mysql.com/ to have a look at the software's official home page.

Please look for documentation and a getting started tutorial at this site and spend an hour here:
http://dev.mysql.com/doc/workbench/en/wb-getting-started-tutorial.html

Visit the phpMyAdmin site and tutorial: phpMyAdmin is a gui interface hosted on our server, where you will build the MySQL database using their interface.
http://www.phpmyadmin.net/home_page/index.php

You can click on Try Demo to see the interface and try it out. Or visit it here:
http://demo.phpmyadmin.net/master-config/#PMAURL-0:index.php?db=&table=&server=2&target=&lang=en&collation_connection=utf8_general_ci&token=4dd54e40991b1109af1030e5a72cc006

From this interface you will see your SQL code that is being generated and also be able to perform functions like specifying keys and importing and exporting data.
Spend an hour looking around here and seeing what's available.
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Let me know when you have successfully used the VPN and reviewed the tutorial sites. (Send and email. Communication counts as part of this assignment.)

The next thing that I will send you is the description of the database that you will build, but I need you to spend an hour on getting ready to start with – especially if you have not used a dbms before.

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