

Agenda 01: Overview and a Brief Introduction to Everything

The first unit of this class includes a lot of topics that are needed to get started. We will come back to many of these topics more than once over the semester. But I need for you to get started today.

In this unit we are briefly discussing the concepts of a database and tables and a query. We will discuss how to obtain and install the MySQL software and use the client mysql to create a table, insert rows, and then select data from that table. Since people in the class may be using different operating systems, the installation directions will be pretty general and will refer you to the MySQL web site.

I will also give you the directions for creating a script file of SQL statements and the directions on how to run a script and produce a spool file; this is the technique needed for the assignments.

For the first unit I need to know that you can get into your MySQL system and enter SQL statements. It is OK if you do not fully understand all of this at first; we will discuss these topics in more detail over the semester. The first unit of a class -- when you are installing software and you have to learn how to log into two systems (Insight, mysql) and learn to navigate these systems, might seem overwhelming- don't get discouraged- it gets better but only if you dive in and get started. The first assignment is primarily designed to see that you can get to Oracle and can follow the directions to create the script and spool file. Don't put off trying to get the first assignment done. Some people have never dealt with script files- they are easy but as with anything new, you do have to try it. If you need help, post questions. There is a separate forum for people using Mac systems at the top of the Insight page

The major topics in this unit are

- Some database terms: database, schema, table, query, dbms, database engine, client
- Using the SQL language to talk to the dbms
- SQL: creating a populating a table using supplied SQL statements.
- SQL: using simple Select queries to get a result
- SQL: ordering the rows in the result
- Using the interactive mysql client to create a database and to enter and run a query
- Using the mysql client as a command to run a script file and produce a spool file

To Do: Reading

- Read the Class Policy statement which discusses assignments, forums, grading policy, policies on late assignments etc.
- You will also find other general information, including the SLOs for this class, in the CourseInformation book.
- Download the notes for unit_01 from the DownloadPage.
- Regarding the van der Lans book: The author discusses topics in a different order than I do in the class. So the readings from that book will often refer to specific pages.
- In the van der Lans book: **read chapter 1 pages 3-16**. You can skip the rest of this chapter if you want. You are not required to create the Tennis Club Sample database discussed in the book in Chapter 2. But read through the description of those tables in the book so that you understand the examples in the rest of the book. If you decide to create these tables so that you can experiment with the queries in the book, be sure to put them in their own database. You can find the url for those tables in Chapter 3. **Read pages 43-46 in chapter 4 (section 4.3-4.4).**

To Do: Assignment_01

Download the assignment directions and any sql files needed from the DownloadPage. Complete the assignment. Upload the required files via the assignment tool.

