

Integrating HTML & PHP; Commenting Code; if...else; switch; ternary

CGT 356

Web Programming, Development, & Database Integration

Lecture 4

HTM vs. HTML

- **What is the difference between .htm and .html?**
 - There is no functional difference
 - They are one in the same
 - However, if you save a file as .htm and then link to it as .html, the page will not be found

.html vs. .php

- ❑ An HTML file can only contain HTML content.
 - You can only use the elements that have been standardized by the W3C.
- ❑ An PHP file can contain HTML or PHP or both HTML & PHP.
 - You can change the file extension of any HTML file to .php and it will work the same.
- ❑ PHP is a method of organizing HTML for delivery to a web browser

.html vs. .php

- In HTML, index.html was the default page
 - `www.foobar.com/` would actually find `www.foobar.com/index.html`
- In PHP, index.php is the default page
 - `www.foobar.com/` now actually returns `www.foobar.com/index.php`
- Thus, index.html and index.php are similar in that they have the same default functionality

.php vs .asp vs .aspx vs .jsp vs etc

- ❑ Different technologies that functionally serve the same purpose
- ❑ PHP tech uses PHP lang, ASP uses VBScript, ASP.NET uses either C# (preferred) or VB, JSP uses Java
- ❑ PHP can include: only HTML, only PHP, or any mix of both HTML and PHP
- ❑ PHP (and all of these mentioned) is a method of organizing HTML for delivery to a web browser

Comments

- ❑ The best programmers also document their work well.
- ❑ The easiest programs to read are those that are well commented.
- ❑ The purpose of a comment is to explain the code to a person who is reading it.
- ❑ Comments are important to a programmer, but the program itself ignores them.

Comments

- ❑ A single line comment begins with `//`
`//this is a comment`
- ❑ Everything that follows the `//` on that one line is a comment.
- ❑ It is common to place comments after short statements:
`int counter; //count the number of records`

Commenting Code

- In PHP, use `//` to comment your code
 - `//This is a commented line`
 - `//$login = $HTTP_POST_VARS["login"];`

Comments

- A multi-line comment begins with `/*` and ends with `*/`

`/* this is a multi-line comment
you can write as much as you want.
you can comment out an entire program.
then end the comment with */`

Bookend Comments

```
□ //////////////////////////////////////  
// GenerateInventory Function  
////////////////////////////////////  
public void GenerateInventory()  
{  
    //do something  
}  
////////////////////////////////////  
// End GenerateInventory Function  
////////////////////////////////////
```

Ending Comments

```
□ public void GenerateInventory()  
  {  
    while(...)  
    {  
      if(...)  
      {  
        ...  
      } //end if  
    } //end while  
  } //end GenerateInventory
```

Good Programming Practice

- Following the closing right brace of a method body or class declaration with a comment indicating the method or class declaration to which the brace belongs improves application readability.

When to use comments

- Beginning of a program
 - Describe what the program is and what it does
 - Include the author of the program and the date
 - You might include the date of original authorship along with modification dates – especially include the last modification date
- Within the program
 - Our rule of thumb is: one line of comment for every line of code

Commenting Code

- Expected on all labs and projects
- On average, about 1 line of comment for every 1 line of code.

if Conditional in PHP

```
if(condition)
{
    //body of if conditional
    //remember that it is case-sensitive – lowercase if
}
```

```
if($userID == "rjglotzbach")
{
    echo "Welcome Ron!";
}
```

if... else if conditional in PHP

```
if(condition)
{
    //body of if conditional
    //remember that it is case-sensitive – lowercase if
}
else if(different condition)
{
    //body of conditional
    //in PHP, else if is two words
}
```


if... else conditional in PHP

```
if(condition)
{
    //body of if conditional
    //remember that it is case-sensitive – lowercase if
}
else
{
    //body of conditional
    //there is no condition after the else
    //else is a catch-all – if none of the others are true, this code is executed.
}
```

if...else if... else in PHP

```
if(condition)
{
    //body of if conditional
    //remember that it is case-sensitive – lowercase if
}
else if(different condition)
{
    //body of second conditional clause
    //in PHP, else if is two words
}
else if(different condition)
{
    //body of third conditional clause
}
else
{
    //there is no condition after the else
    //else is a catch-all – if none of the others are true, this code is executed.
}
9/8/2009 }
```

Example in PHP

```
<?php
//Get the type of user that is logged in
$userType = $_SESSION["UserType"];

//Include the correct menu based on which user is logged in
if($userType == "Admin")
{
    include($absolutePath."includes/adminMenuOptions.php");
}
else if($userType == "user")
{
    include($absolutePath."includes/userMenuOptions.php");
}
else
{
    //This person should not have access to the site, redirect them
    header("Location: error.php");
}
?>
```

Static Password?? What about DBAccess?

- Yes, but...Let's polish the pages up a bit first & look at “rest of objects.”
 - 1) Create pages in Dreamweaver
 - 2) Create visual elements in Photoshop
 - 3) Use Dreamweaver to:
 - 1) Move all logic into 1 layer
 - 2) Move visual elements into other layers

switch statement in PHP

- switch... case is an alternative to using if...else

```
switch($find)
{
    case 'a':
        echo "Regular Customer";
        break;
    case 'b':
        echo "Preferred Customer";
        break;
    case 'c':
        echo "Donor (monetary or organ... unsure which)";
        break;
    default:
        echo "We don't want their business...";
        break;
}
```

- ***without **break** statements, **every** case will execute

Ternary Conditional

- Yet another alternative is the ternary operator
- available in PHP (example follows)
 - Some languages do not make use of the ternary operator

Ternary Conditional (cont.)

- Basic form:

- `<condition> ? <value if true> : <value if false>`

- Example

- `($grade >= 50 ? 'Passed' : 'Failed')`