**Download and Install MySQL:** There are a number of sources for MySQL on the web. If you only want the MySQL DBMS, download it from the MySQL website at [http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mysql/5.0.html](http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mysql/5.0.html). Unzip and run the installer.

You can also get MySQL as part XAMPP, which is a convenient development package that also includes the Apache web server, PHP and a number of useful tools. You can get XAMPP from [http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp.html](http://www.apachefriends.org/en/xampp.html).

Once you’ve installed MySQL (and/or XAMPP) you’ll need to start the MySQL server. With XAMPP, you can do this from the XAMPP control panel.

**Set the root password:** The first thing you should do after installing MySQL is to set the root password. Run the following command, replacing `newpassword` with a password of your choosing. Write down the password, and keep it somewhere that you can find it!

```
mysqladmin –u root password 'newpassword'
```

Note: The MySQL root user and its password are unrelated to the operating system root user. You do not need to be an OS administrator to run MySQL system administration operations.

If you are using the XAMPP package, you can also set the root password through the web interface. Start the Apache web server through the XAMPP control panel, launch a browser and navigate to [http://localhost/xampp](http://localhost/xampp). Look for the security link and follow that for instructions on setting the MySQL root password.

**Log in as root to the Administrative Database:** Relational DBMSs store administrative information in tables in an administrative or system database. In the case of MySQL, this database is called `mysql`. Start `mysql` as root user accessing the administrative database:

```
mysql –p –h localhost –u root mysql
```

Once you supply the root password, you will have an SQL prompt and access to the system tables.

**Creating a database:** Create a database with the SQL command:

```
cREATE DATABASE mydatabase;
```

where `mydatabase` is the name of the new database. You can choose any name you like, but `mydatabase` is assumed for the remainder of this document.

**Creating a user:** As with most things, it’s generally a bad idea to run normal database operations as root. Once you have created a database, the next thing you should do is to create a user that has access to that database. To do this you can use the grant command.

```
grant all privileges on compl163.* to 'myname'@'localhost'
identified by 'mypasswd';
grant all privileges on compl163.* to 'myname'@'%' 
identified by 'mypasswd';
flush privileges;
```

Replace `myname` and `mypasswd` with a user name and password of your choice.

The first command (`grant to user@localhost`) should be sufficient to allow you to start the mysql command line client for your new database. The second command (`grant to user@%`)
may be needed to allow access from other interfaces (such as PHP). The third command reloads the privilege/access tables in the server so that the new username will be active.

**Log Out as root:** Close down the SQL interface with a <CTRL>-C or by typing **exit** or **quit**.

**Normal operation:** The normal operation of the database is through the SQL interface, with the new database and user you just created. For normal operation, use:

```
mysql -p -u myname mydatabase
```

where **myname** and **mydatabase** are whatever you chose above.

---

**Running mysql under Windows:** The client applications will be located in the folder such as `c:\mysql\bin` or `c:\xampp\mysql\bin`. There are three ways to run these programs with command line arguments.

1. Bring up the command prompt: start -> run -> open: **cmd**
   Change to the mysql binaries directory: cd `c:\mysql\bin`
   Run the commands in the command shell.

2. Create a shortcut to the executable program (perhaps on your desktop).
   Edit the shortcut properties and place the command line arguments in the "target" field.
   Put the arguments outside quotes.

3. Add the path to the mysql bin directory to Windows' search path. Right-click "My Computer" → select "Properties" → open "Advanced" tab → select "Environment Variables" → edit "Path".