

## Database Management Homework Assignment 1:

1. Choose **2** data storage systems<sup>1</sup> from the list provided.
2. Research the **2** database systems. *As this is an upper-level course you should go beyond the obvious comparisons (e.g. Access is made by Microsoft and Oracle is made by Oracle). Try to describe more in-depth differences (e.g. Access is good for small scale databases, where Oracle is best for large, enterprise wide databases).*
3. Prepare a 5-10 minute presentation comparing and contrasting the benefits and disadvantages of each of the systems.
4. Present your findings at the start of class. (Powerpoint, Flash, etc)
5. Provide the instructor with a digital and printed copy of the presentation

As a primer, these are some of the things you should consider when evaluating a database system:

- Cost:** Price per user, per server, per year? Is it free?
- Complexity:** Is it easy to learn? Does
- Supported Software:** Which server side or client side languages support it? Which languages are commonly used with it?
- Server Support:** Some systems can only run on specific servers. Does it require a specific operating system on the server?
- Number of other Companies Using the Technology:** How many companies use it? What have their experiences been? Where is it used?
- Security and Reliability:** Have people experienced many problems with it?

Database systems to choose:

- MySQL
- Microsoft Access
- Oracle (Oracle)
- Microsoft SQL Server
- Macromedia Coldfusion
- XML

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<sup>1</sup> These are not all database systems or relational database systems. They are technologies used to manage data or suites of applications used for data management. Each of these systems has common usage on the web.