# Class 3: PHP with URL parameters and website security

Template-driven websites
How can PHP pass values from one page to another?
URL parameters
Multiple parameters
$GET
Data validation
Sanitizing data
How websites are attacked
SQL injection
Hacking is easy
What hackers can do
Precautions (how to protect yourself)
What to do if you are hacked

## References
PHP and MySQL for Dynamic Web Sites by Larry Ullman
Head First PHP & MySQL by Lynn Beighley and Michael Morrison
PHP Solutions: Dynamic Web Design Made Easy 2nd Ed. by David Powers

## Class 3 Homework
Read: Chapter 10 of PHP and MySQL for Dynamic Web Sites
OR       Chapter 5 of Head First PHP & MySQL
http://www.creativebloq.com/web-design/website-security-tips-protect-your-site-7122853

The "takeaway" from this week's session is that you should be aware of website security issues, take precautions to avoid problems and always filter and/or sanitize any data that originates from outside a PHP script before using it. A simple test will do the job:

```php
if (isset($_GET['id']) && filter_var($_GET['id'], FILTER_VALIDATE_INT)) {
    $article=$_GET['id'];
}else{
    header('HTTP/1.0 404 Not Found');
    exit("<h1>Not Found</h1>\n<p>The submitted data is not valid.</p>");
}
```

*The code above tests to see if a value exists and if that value is an integer.*

Take a look at the Articles website and make sure you understand how it works.

Start/continue research for your presentation.


Course materials: http://www.coursestuff.co.uk/DESI1184/