

The aim of this assignment is to ensure that you have a account on the Computer Science departmental local area network server, hereafter referred to as the CS server. In this course, you will be required to use software on the CS server that is accessible only through a valid user account there. **You cannot pass this course if you do not have such an account.**

What You Must Do

This homework assignment has two parts:

1. You must establish a new user account on the CS server, if you do not already have one. If you don't know whether or not you have an account, then you probably don't have one. See the section below describing how to establish an account.

However, you won't be allowed to have more than one account on the CS server. If you are a CS concentrator, then you probably have an account. Try logging into it before running the `newuser` script (see below) to establish a new account.

2. You must send me a brief email message **from your account on the CS server**. The email must come from **you**, using **your account on the CS server**. **Email from any other source is not acceptable**. For this assignment, it is irrelevant whether you have sent me email in some previous course. You get the ten points for this assignment **only** if I receive email sent by you this semester from your account on the CS server before the deadline given above. The sole purpose of the email is to prove to me that this semester you have an account on the CS server.

Obtaining A User Account

Sit down at one of the workstations **in room 121** of McGlothlin-Street Hall. In the login window, type `newuser` (and a RETURN) on the **Login:** line and just a RETURN on the **Password:** line. This will engage you in a dialog that will lead to the creation of your new account on the CS server. During that dialog, you will create the login id of your new account and supply a password. It takes a couple of days to create your account. Thus, it is a **good idea** for you to run the `newuser` script at least two days before Wednesday, September 5. After two days have elapsed, you should be able to log into your new account from one of the machines in M-S 121. To log into your account, simply type the login id and password for your account into the login window. If you have trouble, then see the techies in M-S 004.

Using UNIX

In this course, you will be required to use the UNIX operating system on the departmental workstations. If you have never used UNIX before, then one of the first things you should do after you obtain your account is go through the UNIX tutorial at the URL:

<http://www.ee.surrey.ac.uk/Teaching/Unix/>

You can reach this UNIX tutorial through the class Web site, too.

Sending and Receiving Email

Email on the CS LAN is handled by an email server. Once you have your account on the CS server, the most straightforward way to access the email sent to your account on the CS server is to use your favorite web browser to visit the Web page for the CS email server:

<http://mail.cs.wm.edu>

First, accept the certificate it offers. You then log into the SquirrelMail program by giving your login id on the CS server and the password for your account. Once SquirrelMail is running, you can read, answer, reply to, and delete your email. The SquirrelMail program has a point-and-click interface that is mostly self-explanatory, but help is only a button click away.

If you don't like the SquirrelMail point-and-click interface, then you can use the command-line `pine` mailer. To start using `pine` as your mailer, you have to perform the following steps:

1. Create an `~/mbox` file. That is, in your login (or root) directory, create an empty file named `mbox`. You can do this with the command `touch ~/mbox`.
2. Start the pine mailer by typing `pine`, enter the "Setup" menu, then the "Configure" menu (type "s c").
3. In the Configuration menu, make sure that `smtplib-server` has the value `mail.cs.wm.edu`.
4. In the Configuration menu, change the `inbox-path` variable. `pine` will ask you for the name of the inbox server. Enter `mail.cs.wm.edu`. Then `pine` will ask you for the inbox folder name on this server. Enter `INBOX`. You should then see the value `(mail.cs.wm.edu)INBOX` for the inbox path variable.
5. Exit `pine`.

After you have performed these five steps, you will start receiving your `cs.wm.edu` email in `pine`. More precisely, your mail will be moved from the `mail.cs.wm.edu` server into your `~/mbox` file, where `pine` can find it.

Reality Check

The **only way you will receive any credit** on this assignment is if the address on the `From` line of the email that you send me begins with your login id on the CS server and ends with `cs.wm.edu`. If your email to me does not have this property, then you will receive nothing on Homework 0. **In particular, mail from the W&M Computer Center mail server, email from your account with your Internet service provider, and email from one of your friend's accounts on the CS server will earn you NOTHING.**

As a check before you send me email, send yourself email. The `From` line of the mail that you receive should pass the test described in the previous paragraph; otherwise, you will be wasting your time.

When I receive your email, I will acknowledge it by return email. If my return email tells you that you have successfully completed Homework 0, then keep it as your proof of successful completion of Homework 0. If you don't receive a return email from me within 12 hours of sending your email, then I almost certainly haven't received your email, so please resend it. If the return email that you receive from me contains something other than congratulations on successfully completing Homework 0, then read my email to you very carefully. You still have work to do before you complete Homework 0 successfully.