

THE CSE COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT

A GUIDED TOUR FOR COSC5910 STUDENTS

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The objectives of this tour is to enable students to obtain an account and become familiar with the computing environment in the Prism Lab. Specifically, it provides an overview of the operating system and step-by-step instructions on creating, compiling, and editing Java programs.

OBTAINING AN ACCOUNT

The following tasks enable you to obtain an account through which you gain (direct and remote) access to the Department of Computer Science and Engineering computing facilities. Note that this **cs** account is different from your **yorku** account.

1. Go to the Prism lab, located in the Computer Science and Engineering building, rooms 1004 and 1006, find a free workstation, and login as **newuser** (no password required).
2. You will be prompted for information required to create a new account (ID number, password, address, telephone, and your acceptance of certain Prism use conditions). Enter the information as requested. Make sure you memorise the password you chose, as you will need it to login to your account later.
3. Log out as follows: move the mouse to the desktop (away from any open window), press and hold the right button, highlight *Quit*, and then release the button. Confirm in the next window that you do want to quite the session.
4. Go to the Lab Monitor and present your York ID (or another photo ID) and sessional card (or proof of registration; e.g. a letter from the Registrar Office). The monitor normally sits at the desk in room 1006, but during the first week of classes, and to avoid congestion, an additional monitor is assigned to assist in new account creation.
5. The monitor will validate the information you entered and then ask you to sign a statement acknowledging that you have read, and do agree with, the *Prism Use Policy*. If you like, you can ask the monitor for a copy of the Policy so you can read it and come back after you do.
6. The monitor will create your account and give you a login ID (also known as a username). Note that it may take up to 30 minutes before your account becomes active.

CREATING A JAVA PROGRAM

Login to your cs account and open a terminal.

1. Type the following command:

```
pico First.java
```

It launches an editor named `pico` and specifies a file name.

2. Type the program shown below, exactly as shown, pressing the *Enter* key after each line. Replace ?? with your name:

```
public class First
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        System.out.put("My name is ??");
    }
}
```

3. When done, press `^X` (to exit), followed by `y` (to confirm that you do want to save), followed by the *Enter* key (to confirm the filename). This should take you back to the operating system prompt.

4. Issue the command:

```
ls -l
```

This command lists all files in the current directory. It allows you to verify that `First.java` has indeed been created.

5. Issue the command:

```
cat First.java
```

This command displays the content of the specified file on the screen. It allows you to verify the content of `First.java`.

6. Issue the following command to compile your program:

```
javac First.java
```

7. If you typed everything correctly, the compiler will report one error in line number 5. To correct the problem, re-launch the editor, go to the 5th line, and replace the word `put` with `println`.

8. Exit the editor and re-compile. No errors should be reported this time; otherwise, correct and re-compile. Issue the `ls` command and note that a new file (named `First.class`) has been created by the compiler.

9. Run the created `class` file by issuing the command:

```
java First
```

You should see the phrase "*My name is ...*" on the screen.

CONFIGURING eCheck

Open a terminal and issue the following command:

```
java Options
```

It launches a window that allows you to set the parameters needed for communicating with the departmental eCheck server. Specifically, you must supply three parameters:

- **Login ID**
This is the ID of the account you created at the beginning of this tour. It is typically made up of the letters `CS` followed by 6 digits.
- **Password**
This is the password of your account.
- **eCheck URL**
Enter the following string and pay attention to letter case:

<http://www.cs.yorku.ca/~roumani/type/ec/ec5910.cgi>

This is the URL of the departmental eCheck server. If you discover later (when you do section L1.3 of Lab 1) that your eCheck cannot communicate with the server, it means this URL was not entered correctly.

Click *Apply* when done.

Note:

The above options need to be entered only once. If you changed your account password, however, then remember to change these options accordingly.

Note:

The checkbox at the top of the Options window allows you to work offline. Make sure this box is *unchecked* or else you will not receive credits for eCheck exercises.