

# 01 – Introduction

CS 2043: Unix Tools and Scripting, Spring 2019 [1]

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But it doesn't have to be.

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# Welcome

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Why are you here?

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The command line feels  
unapproachable.

But it doesn't have to be.

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# The shell isn't magic. So what is it?

- A really easy programming language
- A really verbose dialogue box
- Typed Commands replace clicked buttons
- Raw User Interface

# Why do we still need the shell?

- Scripting and automation
- very old, very new, or very simple programs
- low-overhead, no-frills system access

# The plan for this class

- Short course: 19 sessions (including this one)
- Use the course infrastructure: [wash.cs.cornell.edu](http://wash.cs.cornell.edu)
- Tiny, rapid-fire assignments and quizzes
- Mix of lecture and lab time



Getting Started Lab: go to  
<http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs2043>

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## Getting started lab

- Set up your account!
- Your username is your netID; your password has been e-mailed to you (from milano@cs.cornell.edu)
- Go to wash.cs.cornell.edu in a browser; click the box and then press enter twice
- Can also SSH to **wash.cs.cornell.edu**
- Change your password!

## Homework for tomorrow:

- Log in to the server! (This will only work on campus!)
- Bring a laptop to the next class!!
- Email the TAs if you do not have a laptop that you can bring.

# References

- [1] Stephen McDowell, Bruno Abrahao, Hussam Abu-Libdeh, Nicolas Savva, David Slater, and others over the years. “Previous Cornell CS 2043 Course Slides”.