

# LAB 2

Course Code: CSC 2209

Course Title: Operating Systems



**Dept. of Computer Science  
Faculty of Science and Technology**

<b>Lecturer No:</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>Week No:</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>Semester:</b>	
<b>Lecturer:</b>	<i>Name &amp; email</i>				

# Lecture Outline



1. cat Command
2. Hidden Files
3. Showing Contents of a File
4. How to Append Files
5. How to Concatenate Files
6. cp Command
7. mv Command
8. rm Command

# cat command

- ❑ `cat > test.txt`

This is a test.

I like Unix operating systems.

- ❑ To save the changes press CTRL-d i.e. press and hold CTRL and press d. Create another text file called bar.txt as follows:

# Exercise

In dir1, create a text file called  
'file1.txt', with the text: this is  
my first text file

# Hidden Files

- ☐ The special `.` and `..` directories don't show up when you do `ls`, they are **hidden files**
- ☐ **Similarly we have hidden files**  
Simple rule: files whose names start with `.` are considered 'hidden'  
Make `ls` display all files, even the hidden ones, by giving it the `-a` (all) option:  
**\$ `ls -a`**  
`... .bashrc .profile report.doc`
- ☐ Hidden files are often used for configuration files
- ☐ Usually found in a user's home directory
- ☐ You can still read hidden files — they just don't get listed by `ls` by default

# cat command to show content of a file

- ❑ It's used to print the contents of a file to the screen(stdout more precisely), really useful when you want to have a quick look on contents of a file.
- ❑ As example, use **cat a\_text\_file** to get the inside contents of that file in your screen.

# cat command to append

- ☐ Use the (>>) operator to append the contents of file1.txt to file2.txt :
- ☐ `cat file1.txt >> file2.txt`

# Create, View and Append file

- ☐ **To create a file**  
Syntax: `$ cat>filename`  
Example: `$ cat>ex1`
- ☐ **To view the content of the file**  
Syntax: `$ cat filename`  
Example: `$ cat ex1`
- ☐ **To append some details with the existing details in the file**  
Syntax: `$ cat>>filename`  
Example: `$ cat>>ex1`



# Concatenate multiple files

- ❑ **To concatenate multiple files**

Syntax: `$ cat file1 file2 >> file3`

Example: `$ cat computer compiler >> world`

# cp command

- ❑ **cp** , You can copy files and directories with this command. Typical usage is like **cp file\_a file\_1\_copy** or **cp directory\_a dir\_a\_copy**
  - ❑ **Syntax:** \$ cp source destination  
**Example:** \$ cp ex1 ex2
- ❑ Also don't forget to use proper path when you're coping something to different location.

# mv command

- ❑ The mv command is used to move or rename directories and files.

- ❑ To rename a file use **mv old\_name new\_name**

**Syntax:** \$ mv oldfile newfile

**Example:** \$ mv ex1 ex3

# rm command

- ☐ The rm command is used to remove files or directory.
- ☐ **To delete a file**  
Syntax: `$ rm filename`  
Example: `$ rm ex1`
- ☐ **To delete all files**  
Syntax: `$ rm *`
- ☐ `Rm -d dir_name` (empty directory remove)
- ☐ **`rm -r /tmp/backup`** to remove everything that folder.
- ☐ Of course you've to be careful before removing anything.

# Create, change and remove a directory

- ❑ **To create a directory**

Syntax: `$ mkdir dirname`

- ❑ **To change the name of the directory (!!)**

Syntax: `$ mv old_name new_name`

- ❑ **To remove the directory**

Syntax: `$ rmdir dirname`

Example: `$ rmdir flower`

- ❑ **To delete all directories** The `-p` option can delete directory and its subdirectories/sub-folders:

Syntax: `$ rmdir -p dir1/dir2/dir3`



In AIUB, create a text file called 'file1.txt', with the text:

"this is my first text file

Second line of my first text file"

Create another file name file2.txt with the text

"second file\_yourname"

Copy file1.txt to file2.txt

Rename file2.txt to your\_name.txt

Delete file2.txt

Delete your\_name.txt

Delete AIUB



## Books

- ❑ Unix Shell Programming
  - ❑ Written by Yashavant P. Kanetkar