**SHORT LIST OF LINUX TERMINAL COMMANDS**

**ls**

list directory contents

EXAMPLE USAGE: ls [OPTIONS] [FILE]

POPULAR FLAGS:

-a, --all

list all files, including hidden

-h, --human-readable

show file sizes in a human-readable format, eg., 3.7K instead of 3771

-l

detailed list

TYPICAL USAGE: ls -hal

NOTES:

First two items are always '.' and '..', these mean something. '.' means 'in

this folder' or 'current directory'. '..' means 'one folder up'.

**cd**

change directory

EXAMPLE USAGE: cd [DESTINATION]

NOTES:

Destination can be defined relatively or explicitly. Relative path will likely

be more common.

Two special characters, '..' and '~'. '..' signifies 'one folder up' and '~'

represents your home directory.

TYPICAL USAGE: cd ~/CS211/HW01

**pwd**

prints your current directory

EXAMPLE USAGE: pwd

**echo**

echoes back what it's given

EXAMPLE USAGE: echo ~

NOTES:

If the thing being echoed is a represents something else, as shown in the

example, then the representation is shown. On my laptop, the command echo ~

outputs /home/sweenish.

**mv**

move (and rename) files

EXAMPLE USAGE: mv [FILE] [DESTINATION]

NOTES:

Renaming is done by specifying the file to rename, and simply providing the new

name. Eg., mv test test2 renames a file called test to test2.

**cp**

copy files

EXAMPLE USAGE: cp [FILE] [DESTINATION]

**man**

read the manual for a command

EXAMPLE USAGE: man [COMMAND]

NOTES:

Nearly this whole guide was put together by reading man pages.

**g++**

The C++ compiler that will be used for this class.

EXAMPLE USAGE: g++ -Wall [INPUT NAME] -o [OUTPUT NAME]

NOTES: The above example shows the method by which all programs will be

compiled for grading.

**ssh**

Remote login client using SSH

EXAMPLE USAGE: ssh [USERNAME]@[REMOTE HOSTNAME]

NOTES: This allows a remote connection from a Linux terminal or macOS Terminal

to the Linux Lab. Windows users should use PuTTY instead.

**scp**

secure copy and remote copy

EXAMPLE USAGE: scp [(PATH/TO/)FILENAME(S)] [USERNAME]@[HOSTNAME]:

[(PATH/TO/)FILENAME]

POPULAR FLAGS:

-r

recursively copy a folder and its contents

NOTES: This allows copying of files from a local machine running Linux or macOS

to the Linux Lab. Windows users should use WinSCP instead.

**apropos**

find a command

EXAMPLE USAGE: apropos [KEYWORD(S)]

NOTES: A good tool for those times when you forgot the exact command you want

to use

**rm**

remove files and/or folders

EXAMPLE USAGE: rm [FLAGS] [FILENAMES(S)]

POPULAR FLAGS:

-r, -R, --recursively

remove directories and their contents recursively

-f, --force

ignores files that don't exist, does not ask for confirmation. DANGEROUS!

Ensure that you know exactly what you are deleting

-v, --verbose

Have rm explain everything it's doing

NOTES:

All three flags are very common, but is important to be very careful when using

the -f flag.

**mkdir**

make directory

EXAMPLE USAGE: mkdir [DIRECTORY NAME]

POPULAR FLAGS:

-p, --parents

creates parent directories if needed

NOTES: It is a very good idea to organize your work

**cat**

concatenates files

EXAMPLE USAGE: cat [FILENAME]

NOTES: Generally used to view the contents of a file quickly on the terminal

screen

**touch**

update timestamps

EXAMPLE USAGE: touch [FILENAME]

NOTES: Will create the file if it does not exist.