Terminal Stuff

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Quick disclaimer: UNIX COMPUTERS ONLY?
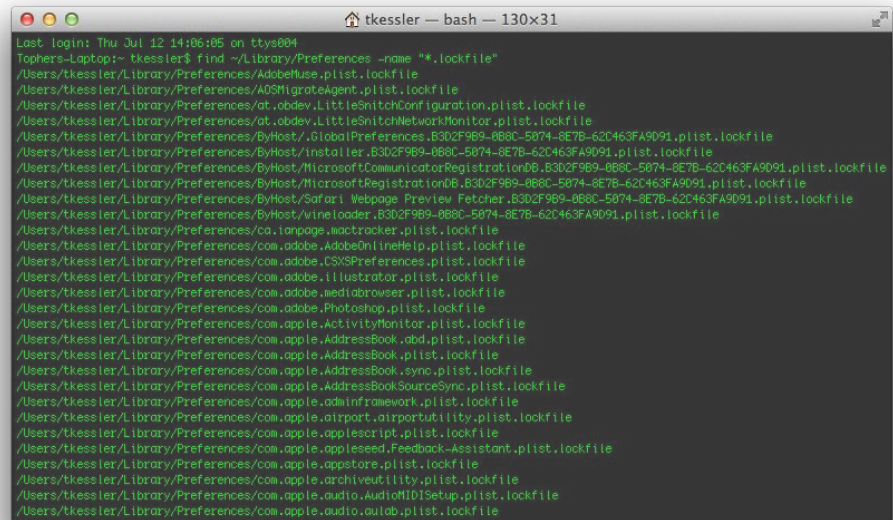
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This course is mainly for Unix computers.

Macs and Linux are both Unix-based.

Windows users: shouldn't matter because we all ssh into andrew

What is a terminal?

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Used to be a solid hunk of hardware

Program that captures input, and displays output from commands

It's a text input/output envrionment

What is a shell?

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A terminal interacts directly with the **shell.**

A shell is an interface that executes **custom commands** which directly affect the computer.

Most computers use **bash.**

What are commands?

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You can start programs, move files around, and a lot more with the shell using **commands.**

A typical command structure:

```
Command_name <flags/options> <arguments>
```

Demo

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1. Just command name **ls**
2. With arguments **cowsay 'im a cow'**
3. With options **cowsay -h**
4. With arguments given to options **cowsay -e '^^' 'gpi is great'**

For Info

man cowsay

Why use a text-based terminal instead of a GUI?

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Lots of reasons:

More efficient!

Moving batch stuff around!

Street cred

Recap

The shell is cool, don't be scared

It's a way to interact with the underlying system