CIST-1001 In-class Lab 01

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The purpose of this lab is to introduce the Wndows command prompt. You will perform a series of tasks described below. Your deliverable will be your answers to the series of questions n the last part.

1 Invoke the command line

The *run box* is the box on the bottom left of the screen that contains the text "Type here to search". This is shown in figure 1. Click in the run box and bype **cmd**, and press the Enter key. This action constitutes entering a command, and from now on I will simply say "Enter the command **cmd**." Entering this command will invoke the command line, also known as the DOS prompt.

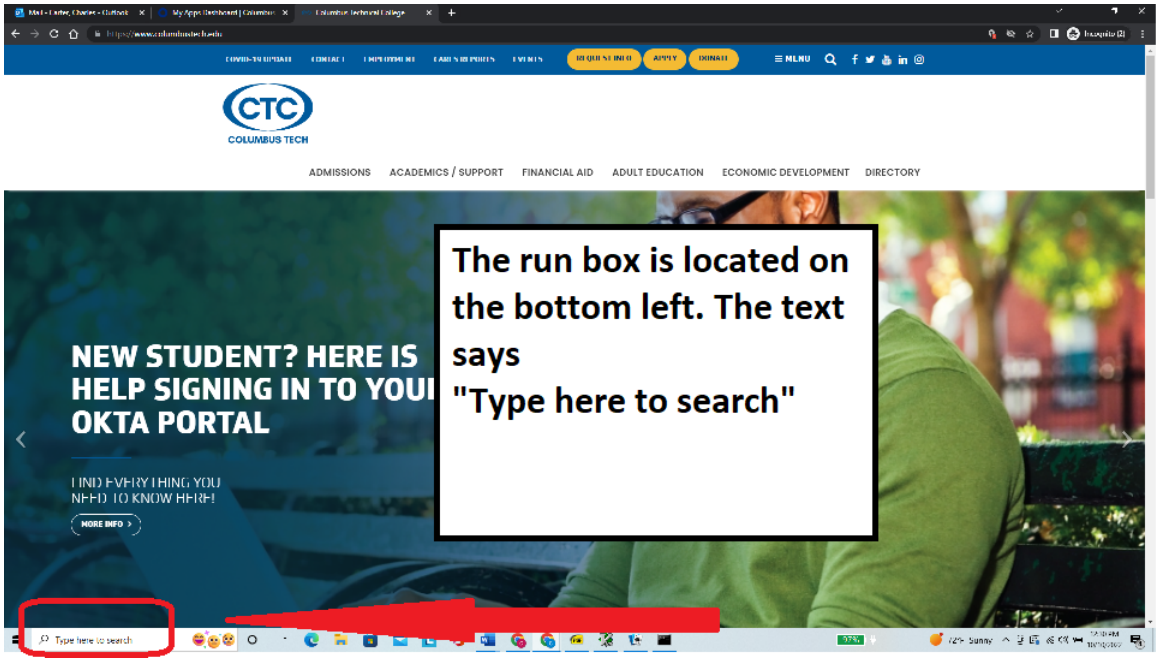

Figure 1: Invoke the command line

2 Examine the command prompt

Your prevous action should have resulted in a window similar to figure 2 Let me introduce you to the *command prompt*. The *title bar* contains the name of the program ("Command Prompt"). The text "C:\Users\ccc31>" is called the *prompt*. You will enter the commands in the space to the right of the prompt.

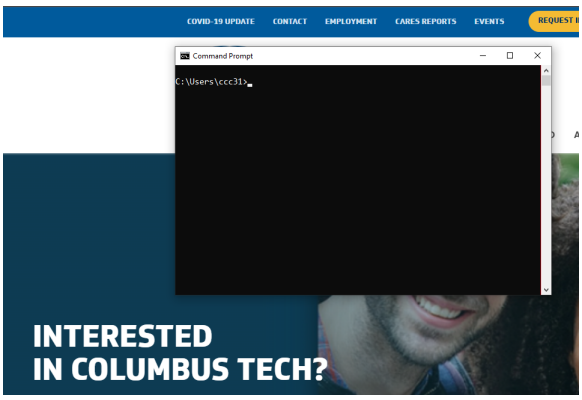

Figure 2: caption

3 Open the properties menu

Right click on the title bar. This will open a context menu, as shown n figure 3. Click the *properties* menu item.

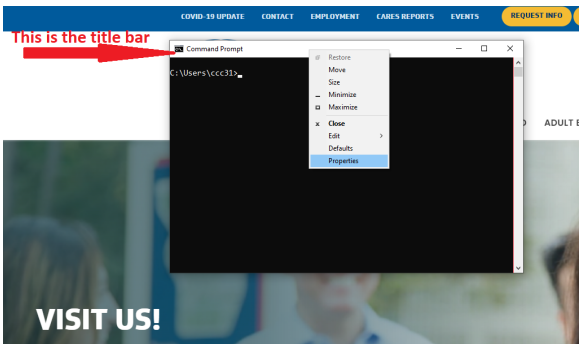

Figure 3: Open the properties menu

4 Properties tabs, Options

The properties contains tabs for Options, Fonts, Layout, Colors, and Terminal. Open the Options tab and check these boxes: Quick Edit Mode, Insert Mode, Enable Crtl key shortcuts, and Filter clipboard contents on paste. Your tab should resemble figure 4.

5 Font tab

On the Font tab, select your preferred Size and Font. Also, check the Bold fonts checkbox. See figure 5

6 Layout tab

On the Layout tab, sete your Window Size to your preferred size, and your Window Position to your preferred position. The Screen Buffer contains the previous commands and results that are not currently visible in the window, and you do not need to make any changes there. See figure 6.

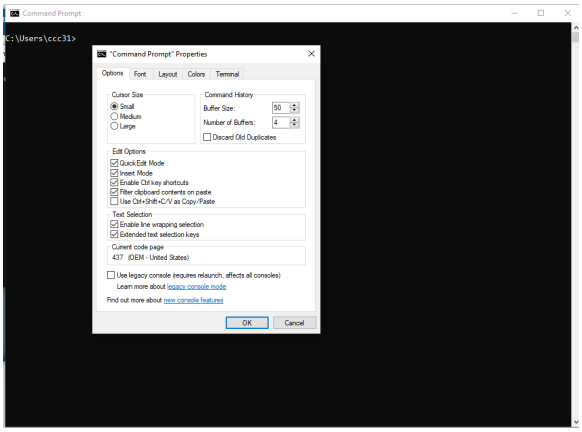

Figure 4: Properties tabs, Options

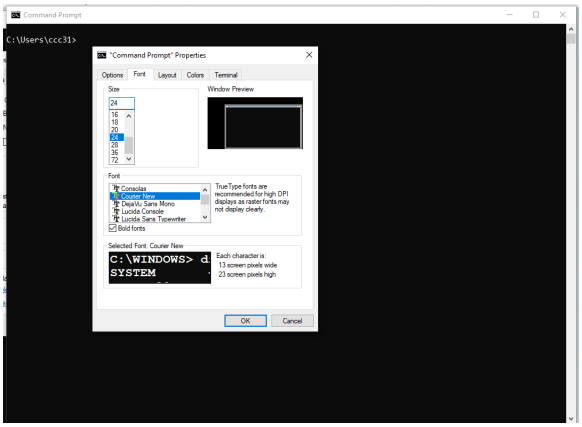

Figure 5: Font tab

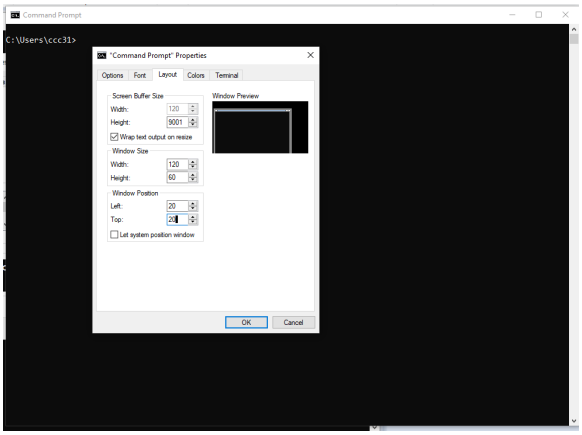

Figure 6: Layout tab

7 Click OK

When you are satisfied, click *OK*. See fgure 7. If you do not see changes, close the command prompt and reopen it. You can set and reset the properties as often as you wish.

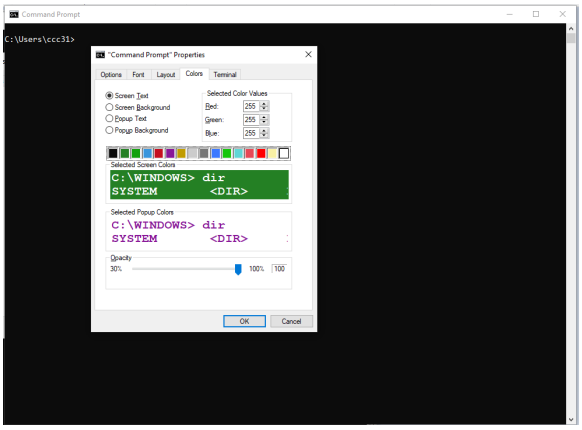

Figure 7: Click OK

8 What is the command prompt?

The command prompt is also known as the DOS prompt or the "command nterpreter." You can issue text commands to your computer, and your computer will execute your commands. Why learn the command prompt? First, you can use many more commands than the Windows GUI gives you. Second, it's actually easier and quicker to use the command prompt after you gain some experience using it. Finally, you can write simple programs that automate tasks and execute them with the command prompt. You can see how I configured my command prompt in figure 8.

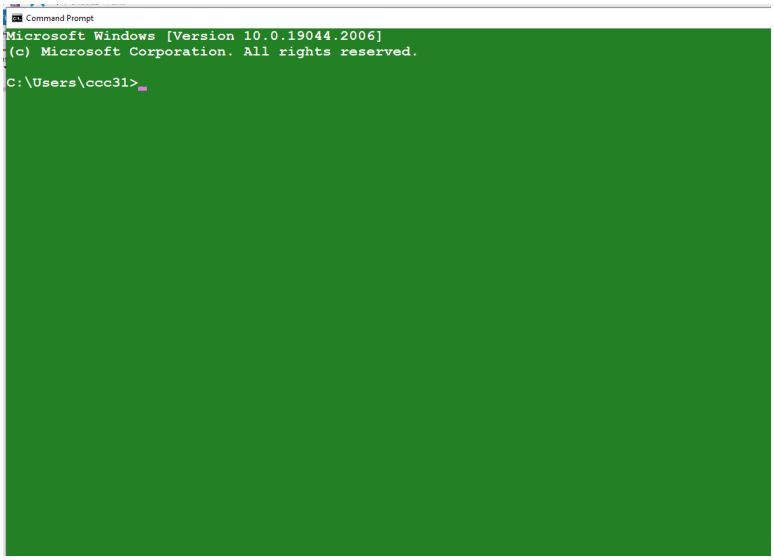

Figure 8: What is the command prompt?

9 HELP!!!

Enter the command **help**. See figure 9. What happens? If you can't read the text fast enough, you can use the vertical scroll bar on the right to uncover the hidden text (which is contained in the buffer).

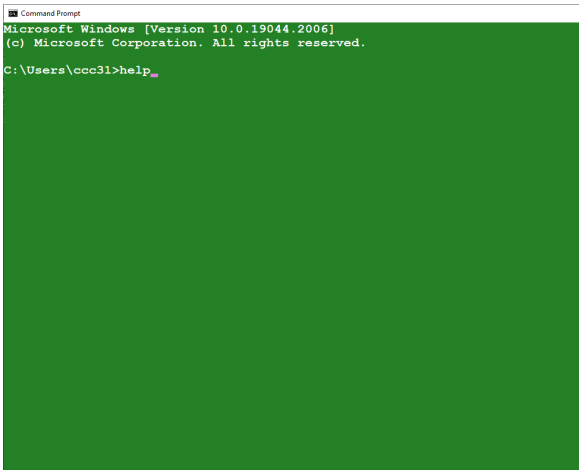

Figure 9: HELP!!!

10 Reading the documentation

Read the documentation for the EXIT and HELP commands. See figure 10. What do these commands do? Please feel free to read the documentation on other commands that interest you. We will explore these in the next lab.

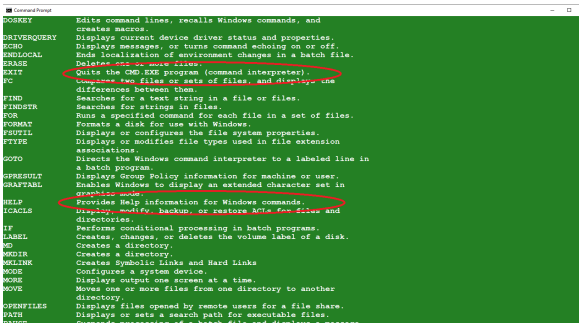

Figure 10: Reading the documentation

11 Exit

Enter the **exit** command See figure 11. What happened? Invoke the command prompt again, change some of the window properties, and exit again. Do this until you become comfortable opening and closing the command prompt.

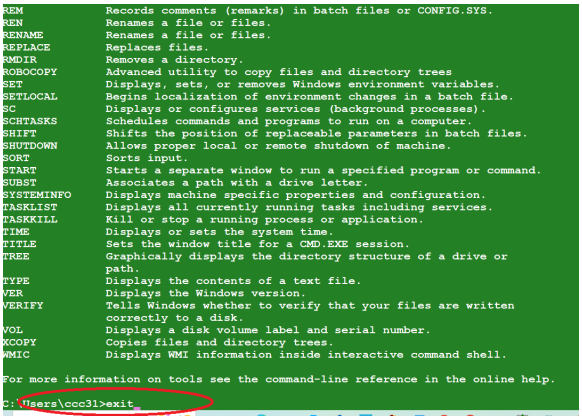

Figure 11: Exit

12 Lab deliverable

Answer the following questions and submit your answers as directed in class.

1. What font and font size did you select?
2. What colors for screen text and screen background did you choose?
3. What does the **TYPE** command do? Use the **help** command.
4. What does the **COPY** command do? Use the **help** command.
5. What does the **MOVE** command do? Use the **help** command.
6. Enter **dir /?**. What does this command do?
7. Enter **cd /?**. What does this command do?
8. Enter **tasklist**. What does this command do?
9. Enter **systeminfo**. What does this command do?
10. Enter **tree /f**. What does this command do? What is the difference between entering **tree /f** and **tree** (without the **/f**)? What changes?