Submitting Assignments

While doing a unit you may be asked to submit the answers to some assignments electronically using the 'submit' program.

This requires you to transfer your files to turing (via SFTP) and then use the submit program, on turing, to send your files to the unit markers. The advantage of this method is that it is easy to submit entire directory structures of files. This is described in detail in the following sections.

This procedure requires that you will have a set of files you wish to submit (on turing). These should be located in your current working directory on a UNE Unix system. Typically there will be one or more files that contain source code for a program you have written, a data file for the program and a document describing the solutions to the assignment. You may also be asked to submit a 'script' that shows your program in action.

These are the things you need to know:

- Which computer you must submit the assignment from. This will most likely be turing.
- Your unit name. This is usually something like cosc120. You will be shown a list of unit names if you require.
- Which assignment you are submitting. This procedure will show you a list of assignments that you are allowed to submit to. You need to pick the correct one from the list.
- Your tutorial group. If you are in a large unit that has tutorial groups, you will need to know which tutorial group you belong to. The name of the tutorial group will typically be a tutors name or a day/time of your tutorial. You will be shown a list to choose from. Note that some units are marked by only one person and may not have been broken up into tutorial groups. In this case you will not be asked for your group.
- What files you need to submit.

Following are the steps required to submit an assignment. Included are some sample screens and explanations of various options. Sample input and the results are shown in typewriter style font.

Login

Login to the computer that you must submit your assignment from. This will be most likely be turing. Some units may specify a different computer. If you don't know which computer to use, consult your lecturer or tutor.

Start Submit and Enter Unit Name

Change to the directory that contains the files you wish to submit and type submit. You will then be prompted for your unit name.

turing % submit

Unit name for submission: cosc120

If you can't remember what your unit name is, type a `?'. You will then be shown a list of possible unit names. You will then be asked to restart the submit program.

Enter Assignment Name

After typing your unit name, you will be presented with a list of assignment names. To the right of each assignment name is either the word 'on' or 'off'. This signifies whether you can submit files for that particular assignment at this time.

If the assignment you want to submit is 'off' then either you are trying to submit too early or you are trying to submit past the due date. If it is past the due date, you will have to make arrangements with your lecturer to submit by other means.

Current assignments for cosc120:

assignment1 off assignment2 on 4/4/25, 10:50 AM

assignment3 off Assignment: assignment2

Type in the assignment name. If you misspell it, you will be asked to type it again.

The Submit Main Menu

After you type the assignment name, you will see the following menu.

Assignment Submission Procedure

Unit : cosc120

Assignment: assignment2

- 1 Record (script) your assignment at work and add to submission list
- 2 Add files to submission list
- 3 Send final submission (Overwrites previous submission)
- 4 View previous submission
- 5 Help
- 6 Quit

Enter selection:

Make a selection by entering a number from 1 to 6 followed by the return key. Options 1 to 4 are explained below. Option 5 will give you a brief summary of what each option will do. Option 6 will exit from the menu and put you back at the shell prompt. If you use option 6 to exit and you have not yet used option 3 to make a submission, you will be warned and asked to confirm your exit.

Making a Script

If you are required to submit a 'script' of your assignment at work you will need to select option 1. When you select this option you will be put back to your shell prompt. Everything you type and the output of any programs you run will be recorded in a 'script' file. Once you have finished demonstrating your program, type the exit command. You will then be returned to the main menu.

Note that you should not run any full screen programs like less, more, vi, pico, pine or elm while you are using script. These programs do not record well and leave a lot of control characters in the 'script'.

The script file will be sent with your final submission when you select option 3 of the main menu.

If you make a mistake while making the script file, type exit to return to the menu and select option 1 again. The new script will overwrite your previous version.

Following is a sample session of creating a script. The session demonstrates the successful compilation and running of a simple program that adds and multiplies two numbers. This is an example only, please consult your tutor to find out what details you must submit in your script.

Assignment Submission Procedure

Unit : cosc120

Assignment: assignment2

- 1 Record (script) your assignment at work and add to submission list
- 2 Add files to submission list
- 3 Send final submission (Overwrites previous submission)
- 4 View previous submission
- 5 Help
- 6 Quit

Enter selection: 1

To finish recording and return to submit menu, type exit

Script started, file is /tmp/s6807script

turing % ls

add.cc add.doc

turing % g++ add.cc

turing % a.out 1st number: 23

2nd number: 48

4/4/25, 10:50 AM

sum = 71, product = 1104
turing % exit
exit
Script done, file is /tmp/s6807script
[Press return to continue]

Submitting Files

You will usually be required to submit some files as part of your assignment. These files will typically consist of program source code, program data files, program documentation, written explanations and answers.

To submit these files, option 2 of the main menu is used. Here is a sample session.

Assignment Submission Procedure

Unit : cosc120

Assignment: assignment2

- 1 Record (script) your assignment at work and add to submission list
- 2 Add files to submission list
- 3 Send final submission (Overwrites previous submission)
- 4 View previous submission
- 5 Help
- 6 Quit

Enter selection: 2

Type in the names of any files to be included as part of your submission.

Finish with a blank line.

If you name a binary file you will be asked for confirmation. The files that you submit may be printed on a printer and binary files do not print very well. You should only submit binary files if your lecturer has specifically requested that you do so.

Absolute pathnames (filenames beginning with a '/' character) will not be accepted.

File to submit: add.cc File to submit: add.doc

File to submit:

You are ready to submit the following files:

add.cc add.doc

[Press return to continue]

As the help message says, you enter file names, one per line. When you have finished, you enter a blank line. Each file is checked to make sure it is not a special file, binary file or directory. If the file is a binary file or a directory, you will be asked to confirm that you want to send this file or directory. If you send a directory, you send the entire contents of the directory, including sub-directories. This is not usually what you want to do.

Making the Final Submission

Option 3 of the main menu is used to send the files you named from option 2 and the script you made from option 1, to the unit marker. If more than one person marks your unit, you will asked which tutorial group you wish to submit your files to. If this is the case, the names of the tutorial groups will be shown to you. You must choose one. They will either be the name of your tutor or the time of your tutorial. If you are an external student, the name of your tutorial group may be something like `ext'.

Following is a sample session. If your unit is not broken up into tutorial groups, you will not be asked the question about tutorial groups.

Assignment Submission Procedure

```
4/4/25, 10:50 AM
    Unit : cosc120
    Assignment: assignment2
     1 Record (script) your assignment at work and add to submission list
     2 Add files to submission list
     3 Send final submission (Overwrites previous submission)
     4 View previous submission
     5 Help
     6 Quit
  Enter selection: 3
  The tutorial groups of cosc120 are:
     tue
     wed
     ext
  Enter your tutorial group: tue
  rw-r---- 501/0 759 Mar 10 14:43 2019 submit.20190310
  rw----- 501/0 202 Mar 10 11:54 2019 add.cc
  rw----- 501/0 1760 Mar 10 12:26 2019 add.doc
  Compressing submitted files... please wait
  Your files have been submitted to cosc120, assignment2 for grading.
  A record of this session has been left in submit.20190310
  Submission Complete
```

After you enter your tutorial group (if required), the files that you are submitting are listed. You are also informed about a file left in your directory that records what you did during this session with the submit program. You may delete this file or keep it for your own records.

Viewing the Previous Submission

[Press return to continue]

You can get a list of files that you have submitted by using option 4 of the main menu. If the unit is broken up into tutorial groups, you will be asked for your group.

```
Assignment Submission Procedure
       : cosc120
 Unit
 Assignment: assignment2
   1 Record (script) your assignment at work and add to submission list
  2 Add files to submission list
  3 Send final submission (Overwrites previous submission)
  4 View previous submission
  5 Help
  6 Quit
Enter selection: 4
Checking for existing submission...
The tutorial groups of cosc120 are:
  tue
  wed
  ext
Enter your tutorial group: tue
rw-r---- 501/0 759 Mar 10 14:43 2019 submit.20190310
rw----- 501/0 202 Mar 10 11:54 2019 add.cc
rw----- 501/0 1760 Mar 10 12:26 2019 add.doc
[Press return to continue]
```

What If I Make A Mistake?

If you decide you have made a mistake, just go though the whole submit procedure again. The new submission will overwrite your previous one, but remember, you must add all the files and the script over again.

Whenever you submit an assignment, a file called submit.yyyymmdd is created in your directory. This file contains all the details, including the script and the names of the files, of your submission. You can keep this for your records

or delete it if you don't want it.

While the submit program is running, it creates a file called /tmp/submit.lock.username where username is your username. If your submit session is terminated for some reason (your connection fails), you may get the message:

ERROR: You can only run one submit at a time

when you try to start submit. If this is the case, you can simply delete the /tmp/submit.lock.username file to allow submit to restart. Note that you will also get this error message if you try to start submit a second time. This can happen, for example, if are making a script from within submit and then try to run submit again.