CSCI 340 Fall 2019 - Assignment Submission Instructions

All assignments for this class will be submitted electronically using the e-mail system *indirectly*.

The most important point to be made here is **DO NOT SEND YOUR PROGRAMS DIRECTLY WITH E-MAIL**. With as many students as there are in the class, direct e-mail submission leads to chaos. There are too many options:

- Should all files be placed in one e-mail or in separate e-mails?
- Should they be sent as attachments or in the body of the e-mail?
- Can I use the a web based e-mail program?
- Which address do I send my programs to and what do I do if I forget it?

You get the picture. There are too many ways that things can go wrong.

To make this process easier for you and the TAs, custom programs have been created specifically for submitting course assignments. This document explains how to set up your account on `tiger` to use the submission programs.

Setup

1. If you do not already have one, you need a `bin` sub-directory in your home directory.

```
cd ~
mkdir bin
```

2. In this directory you need to place the `mailprog` program which will submit your programs in the proper format.
    a. You may copy the program if you wish, but it is preferable to make a link to the program.
        i. If the submission program changes, you won't need to reinstall it.
        ii. You will automatically have access to the updated version.
        iii. A link also saves precious space on your disk quota.

    b. To create the link, go to your home directory and execute:

```
cd bin
ln -sf /usr/local/bin/mailprog.340
```

Make sure you've typed it correctly. Many common errors can be traced to an improper link.

Make sure the system recognizes this new program by logging out and logging in again.

Assignment Directories

It is recommended you have a separate directory in your account for this course. It can be called anything you want, but a good name would be `340`. This directory should have the permissions changed so that you are the only one that can access it. This means only you, not the TAs or even your instructor should be able to access this directory. This prevents a lot of security headaches.

Changing the permissions is done using the `chmod` command.

```
cd ~
mkdir 340
chmod 700 340
```

Warning: if your code is copied/borrowed by other students, regardless of the reason, you will be considered to have cheated too.

Each assignment should have its own subdirectory beneath your course directory. Each assignment directory should contain the source code and Makefile for each assignment. You may place the object files and the executable file in the same directory, but ***these should be removed before the assignment is submitted.***

Submission

To submit an assignment, you should be in your assignment directory

To submit the assignment type:

```
mail_prog <<name of assignment files>>
```

The `mail_prog` program will:

- Examine your assignment directory and ask you to remove executable and object files if any exist
- Ask you to remove any data files and core files (often created when a program crashes).
- Ask you for the assignment number and your section number if no prohibited files exist

- Wrap up all files in your assignment directory, compress them, and e-mail them to your TA in a consistent format.
- Send an additional copy of the e-mail to your mail account on `tiger` as a verification.
- The following is a sample session assuming a directory named `assign1`:

```
schoene@tiger:~> cd 340/assign1
schoene @tiger:~> mail_prog assignment1.cc


**********************************************************************
*           WARNING : Do NOT use this program to mail notes to your
            Instructor *
*           Doing so may result in the loss of your program !!       *
**********************************************************************

Enter program number for your assignment : 1
*********************************
* Section 1: Ibrahim Onyuksel    *
*    TA: Pragna Bodipudi         *
* Section 2: Jonathan Lehuta     *
*    TA: Rahul Rao Madarapu      *
* Section 3: John Winans         *
*    TA: Venkata Surya Maddukuri *
* Section 4: Larry Schoeneman    *
*    TA: Harper College          *
*********************************
Enter your section number : 4


shar: Saving assignment1.cc (text)
```

Your Copy

The `mail_prog` program does not destroy or alter any files in your assignment directory. But it does send you a copy of what it sends to the TA. If you do not receive the copy, chances are good that your assignment didn't make it to the TA. The following is an example submission copy.

```
From duffin@cs.niu.edu Wed Jan 24 17:19:24 2001
Date: Wed, 24 Jan 2001 15:43:44 -0600 (CST)
From: Kirk L. Duffin <duffin@cs.niu.edu>
To: duffin@cs.niu.edu
Subject: CSCI 241 : Program 1

#!/bin/sh
# This is a shell archive (produced by GNU sharutils 4.2.1).
# To extract the files from this archive, save it to some FILE, remove #
everything before the `!/bin/sh' line above, then type `sh FILE'.
```

```
#
# Made on 2001-01-24 15:43 CST by <duffin@lx>.
# Source directory was `/home/lx/duffin/courses/cs241/assign/assign1'.
#
# Existing files will *not* be overwritten unless `-c' is specified.
#
# This shar contains:
# length mode       name
# ------ ---------- ------------------------------------------ #
693 -rw-r--r-- mailprog.6928
#
save_IFS="${IFS}"

IFS="${IFS}:"
gettext_dir=FAILED
locale_dir=FAILED
first_param="$1" for
dir in $PATH
do
  if test "$gettext_dir" = FAILED && test -f $dir/gettext \
&& ($dir/gettext --version >/dev/null 2>&1)   then
    set `$dir/gettext --version 2>&1`
if test "$3" = GNU     then
gettext_dir=$dir     fi   fi
  if  test  "$locale_dir"  =  FAILED  &&  test  -f  $dir/shar  \
&&   ($dir/shar   --print-text-domain-dir   >/dev/null   2>&1)
then
    locale_dir=`$dir/shar --print-text-domain-dir`
fi done IFS="$save_IFS"

if test "$locale_dir" = FAILED || test "$gettext_dir" = FAILED
then   echo=echo else
  TEXTDOMAINDIR=$locale_dir
export TEXTDOMAINDIR
TEXTDOMAIN=sharutils   export
TEXTDOMAIN
echo="$gettext_dir/gettext -s"
fi
if mkdir _sh06945; then
  $echo 'x -' 'creating lock directory' else
  $echo 'failed to create lock directory'
exit 1 fi
# ============= mailprog.6928 ============== if test -f
'mailprog.6928' && test "$first_param" != -c; then   $echo 'x
-' SKIPPING 'mailprog.6928' '(file already exists)' else
  $echo 'x -' extracting 'mailprog.6928' '(binary)'
sed 's/^X//' << 'SHAR_EOF' | uudecode &&

begin 600 mailprog.6928
M..="3%P:N2>X&<E<(7I\XGK>V..^/T9<>-S%L?<(MBDK6>"4T2:.T_Q^7EB&
MZ5\720L9CWIFC>-)[YE8$,`,%L.A%00?SDY./Z&W_T5FF67)LDP7N3B&YN%`
M6SNO["!P@.Z&[,"^;L-;-.OZ\48<W"4.M\*]SI["KAOP=.<?CS__\_Q[D^[\
M/X*]3/,PVT0*WI15E.J#Y*UE63]T&L%[65:J$'::5W"A9,&`GO9@I?,J:9U(
```

```
M7CC3?U98EQ885S*8,P@91`P4@YC!@@%1&2P99`Q6#'(&:YP"0.)O$Z6%`8BC
M*0+S%C@$W&&$A%N4&HD0F2/!)T<99U`[,3KV'(;PVL&X.R)L46/[&!R"(-PC
M"?%6Q*,IA,!X0CPB9E2(/Q)$R8E"D0R5$WJYANZ;6@UC?2]C8!A(V<,F(&M-
M`9+LF0XADD^MJUO-=!_83)(1M))I;I/^IL>UN)&AP%2P+C`4V_W/25JBHQ>% M7$&H5^M-
I4JH$H7,2H&.FSH.ON5]9[HE_$I=KG2K:6A@<P*_;]+*>0>UH@QE
MCH)!U&>P2\4XIH*?"?[KL8V/'L"EN0,<'L*9#F4&*DQT@[63#B(L@\%-$K)V
MU]?KW&T6NMN<C-L)/N8PP*W>%!OC=[8$C5@)6ZD96#M&99M<LYE':SF719CT
2SW=GG776V3.S7ZJ/TUX`$```
` end
SHAR_EOF
chmod
0644
'mailpro
g.6928'
||
  $echo 'restore of' 'mailprog.6928' 'failed'
  if ( md5sum --help 2>&1 | grep 'sage: md5sum \[' ) >/dev/null 2>&1 \
&& ( md5sum --version 2>&1 | grep -v 'textutils 1.12' ) >/dev/null; then
md5sum -c << SHAR_EOF >/dev/null 2>&1 \
    || $echo '/tmp/mailprog.6928:' 'MD5 check failed'
e2404a66f75f799fd1858f8eeb4397df  /tmp/mailprog.6928
SHAR_EOF
else
    shar_count="`LC_ALL= LC_CTYPE= LANG= wc -c < 'mailprog.6928'`"

    test 693 -eq "$shar_count" ||
    $echo 'mailprog.6928:' 'original size' '693,' 'current size'
"$shar_count!"
fi fi rm -fr
_sh06945 exit 0
```

Note that the word *FAILED* occurs several times in the above message. This does not mean that the submission failed. Rather it is part of the error checking instructions associated with unpacking the assignment when it reaches the TA. For your information, the section near the end that looks like lines of random characters all starting with M is the actual compressed source code for the assignment. If this section becomes hundreds or thousands of lines long, it's a good indication that an executable or object file slipped through and was accidentally submitted.

These messages to you serve as a verification that you did send the assignment. They can also serve as a backup, but there are better ways of backing up your assignments, and you should be using those means for backing up your assignments. Once you have received a graded assignment from your TA, it is safe to delete your submission copies for that assignment. In fact you should delete your submission copy in this case because it takes away valuable space from your disk quota.

Frequently Asked Questions

- *All the section numbers and TA names in mailprog are wrong. My section/TA is not listed. How do I submit?*

  You have an old copy of `mail_prog`. It changes from semester to semester. Please remove it and reinstall as described above.

- *I found a mistake in my assignment. I've fixed it and I'd like to resubmit. May I?*

  Absolutely. You can submit as many times as you wish. But the electronic submission system will only keep your last three submissions. The last one is what the TA will grade unless you specifically contact him/her and tell them otherwise.