Intro to Unix and Python

The Shell

- The shell is the program that interprets commands you enter into the terminal. We will be using the bash shell for these courses. To check what your default shell is currently set to, type

```
$ echo $SHELL
```

- If /bin/bash is NOT returned, then execute the following command

```
$ chsh -s /bin/bash
```

- Log out and back in again to confirm that your default shell is now bash.

Text Editors

- You may use whatever text editor you prefer, but there are two classic ones, emacs and Vim. Both have a fairly steep learning curve, but are very powerful once you know how to use them.

- Either one will be fine for these classes. Emacs opens in a new window, so may be slower to start up. Vim opens within the same terminal window you start it from, so is better for quick edits of a file.

The .bashrc file

- .bashrc is a shell script that is run every time you open a new terminal. In this file you can define variables, aliases, paths to executable files, etc. It is located in your home directory.

- I have made text file that includes some of the basic setup you will need in your .bashrc file. If you want to use it, add the following line to your .bashrc file

```
source /home/jill2/astrorc.sh
```

Python

- If you will be connecting to Hercules, then python is already set up for you. If you will be working on your local machine, then you need to make sure you are using Python 2.7 and have installed Anaconda

- All lessons will be available as jupyter notebooks on my GitHub account: https://github.com/jrneeley/Teaching

- Test files to be used for practicing will be placed somewhere on hercules.