

CSCI 360 – Assignment 2: Use fork() and exec() to create a custom shell.

Due September 29, 2015

This week's assignment builds on Assignment 1. Today we will create a simple shell that can be used to run programs. Use fork() to create two processes out of one. In the parent you should prompt the user for a program to run. Then run fork(). The parent should wait for the child to complete and then prompt the user again. This loop should continue until the program is terminated (CTL-C will be an acceptable way to end the program.)

The child should use exec() to run the program selected by the user in the parent.

NOTE: YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE exec() DOES NOT RETURN! IF IT DOES THEN YOU MUST PRINT OUT AN ERROR MESSAGE AND TERMINATE THE CHILD. DO NOT CONTINUE TO LOOP. YOU WILL LOSE 50% OF THE VALUE OF THE LAB IF YOU FAIL TO DO THIS.

Use wait() in the parent to detect that the child has finished.