

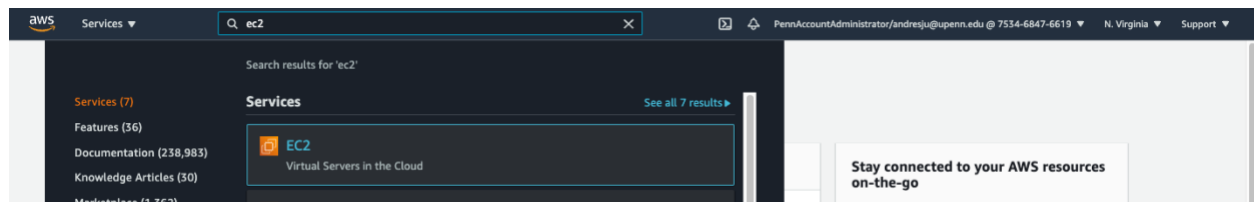
# Connecting to Your EC2 Instance

## Command Line Access via AWS Console

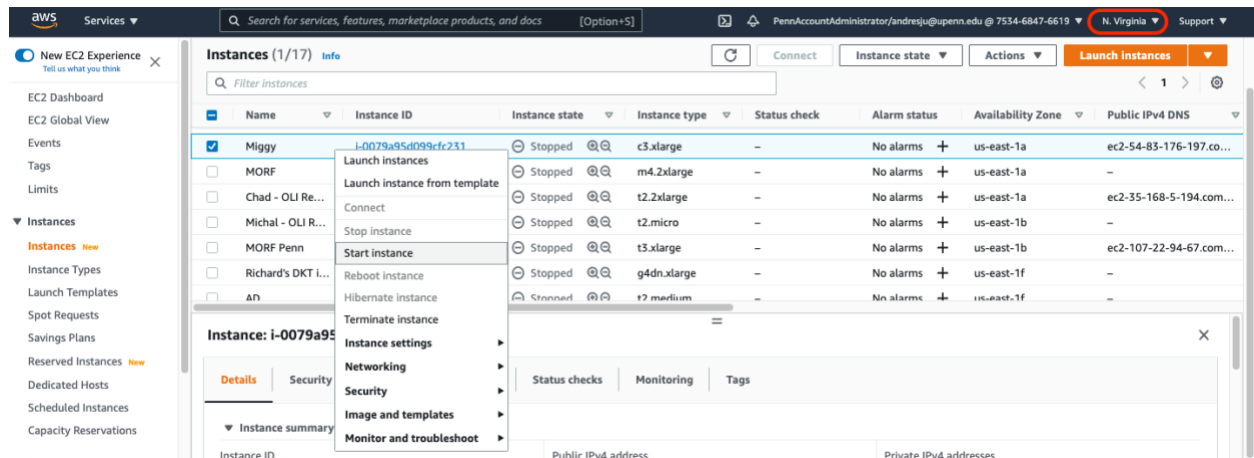
### Initial Setup

Install the [AWS Secure Session Manager \(SSM\) plug-in](#). The installation page has instructions for all operating systems—follow the one for your local machine. Once installed, proceed with the instructions below.

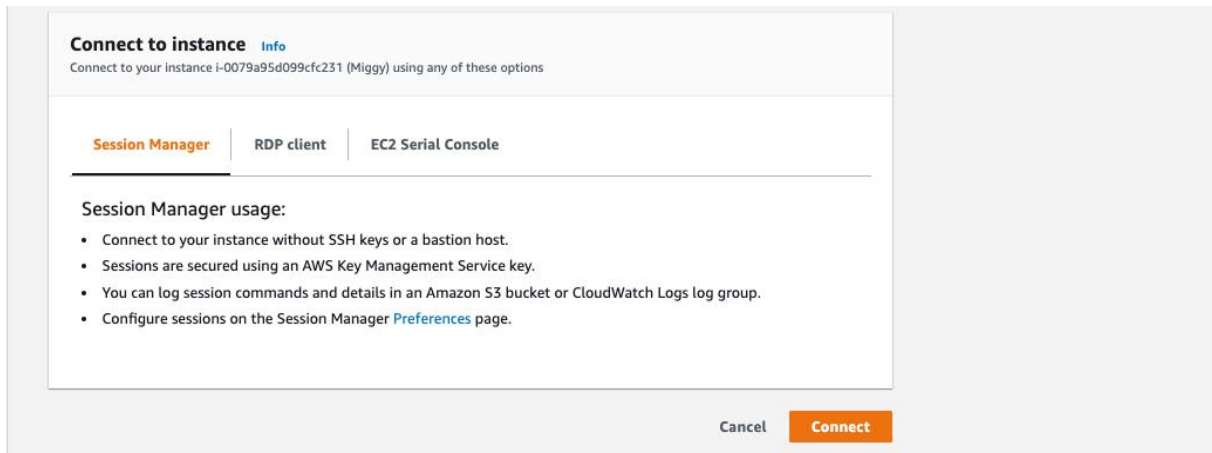
1. Login to the AWS Console. Consult the **New User Guides** if you are unsure of how to login.
2. Once logged in, type EC2 in the service search bar at the top of the screen and click EC2.



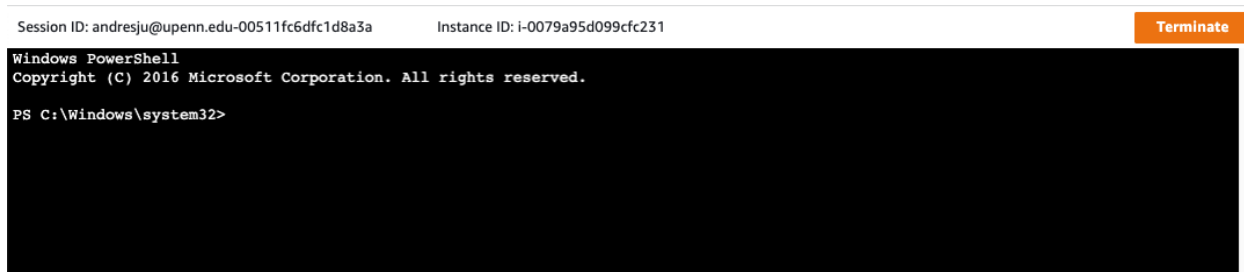
3. Ensure you're in the correct region in the upper right corner: N. Virginia.
4. Scroll down to your instance, right-click it, and click Start instance.



5. Give it a minute or two to boot up.
6. Once running, right-click your instance again, and this time, click Connect. This will take you to the Connect to instance page.



7. Browse to the Session Manager tab and click the orange Connect button. You are now connected via command line interface to your instance.
8. For Linux EC2 instances, be sure to enter `bash` at the beginning.
9. Once you're done, hit the orange Terminate button in the upper-right corner to terminate your current connection. It will ask you to confirm—just hit the Terminate button again on the pop-up.



10. If you're done using the instance/don't need it running in the background, be sure to shut your machine down.
11. Browse back to your instance, right-click it, and select Stop instance.

