

Syllabi Sample Texts

Autodesk software:

This course requires the use of an Autodesk Software product, available at no charge through their academic program. Go to <http://students.autodesk.com/> and click on the link for students or free software. Then follow the prompts to create an account and download your software.

Email policy:

You must use your Mason email account for all email correspondence having anything to do with your work at Mason. Federal laws protecting your privacy rights require that we only communicate student information directly to students – and use of the university email system is our only way to validate your identity. You may forward your campus email elsewhere, but we can respond only to a Mason email account.

Helios:

This class will use a server known as <http://helios.vse.gmu.edu> for web sites. You will have to use the campus VPN to access the server if you are off campus. Instructions for the campus VPN are in the VPN FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>. The **Helios** server is only to display the web content. You will upload files to and edit them on **zeus.vse.gmu.edu**, which you can access using **ssh** and **sftp**. Please see the SSH FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu> for information on software used to connect to the Linux servers. To view the pages, point your browser to <http://helios.vse.gmu.edu/~<username>/<filename>> - where you put your Mason NetID (as jdoe23) and the file name for the page where indicated. Please remember that filenames on Linux systems are case sensitive.

Linux (command line):

This course uses one of the Linux systems in the Volgenau School and you will have to connect through a VPN tunnel if you are off campus or using campus wireless access. Information on connecting through VPN can be found in the VPN FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>. Use your Mason NetID and password (same as for PatriotWeb) to log in to the Linux system. Please see the SSH FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu> for information on software used to connect to the Linux servers.

Linux (graphic interface):

Access to a Linux graphic interface is only available in our school labs. Please see the VSE Labs site (<http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>) for location and hours.

Microsoft downloads:

This course uses Microsoft software available at no charge through the Microsoft Azure Dev Tools program. All students are automatically registered with that program. Please read the Microsoft Azure Dev Tools FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu> for instructions on activating your account or resetting your password.

MySQL:

This course uses the VSE MySQL database server. Please refer to the MySQL FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu> for instructions on activating your account and accessing the server. You will have to connect through a VPN tunnel if you are off campus or using campus wireless. Information on connecting through VPN can be found in the VPN FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>. Your instructor will provide instructions on the specific way you should access the database.

Oracle:

This course uses the VSE Oracle database server. Please refer to the Oracle FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu> for instructions on activating your account and accessing the server. You will have to connect through a VPN tunnel if you are off campus or using campus wireless. Information on connecting through VPN can be found in the VPN FAQ on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>. Your instructor will provide instructions on the specific way you should access the database.

Virtual Computing Lab:

Software for this course has been installed on the Mason Citrix Virtual Lab), run by Mason's ITS. The Citrix lab allows you to run remote sessions through your own computer. Instructions for use of the Citrix Virtual Lab can be seen at <https://its.gmu.edu/service/citrix-virtual-lab/>. Please remember to save all of your work on a drive separate from the virtual machine as the entire virtual machine disappears after you exit.

VSE Computing Web Site Resources:

Volgenau School Computing Resources has answers to many questions about school systems on their web site: <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu> and will try to help you if have problems connecting to school computing systems. However, they will not provide assistance with general computing questions or course assignments. Please contact your instructor or GTA if you have any questions about how to use software to complete your assignments.

VSE Labs:

All software required for this course is installed on computers in the open student lab in ENGR 1506. Lab hours can be found on the Labs web site, <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>. Please remember to save your work to an external drive as any data stored on those computers will not persist after a reboot.

Windows software on Macs:

Microsoft and many other software developers do not make Mac versions of many software titles. If you have a Macintosh computer on which you want to install software written for Windows, you will have to use Boot Camp or a virtual machine product and then install Windows. VMWare Fusion (a virtual machine host for the Mac) and Windows are available at no charge through your enrollment in Volgenau School courses. Instructions for obtaining the software are in the Microsoft Imagine & VMWare FAQs on <http://labs.vse.gmu.edu>. There are some hints for Mac users on using Microsoft Windows in the FAQs.