Setting up your Virtual Computer Lab

http://www.fullerton.edu/vcl

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Meet the VCL team

- Amir Dabirian, VPIT / CIO
- Willie Peng, Assistant Director of Infrastructure Services
  - VCL Implementation Lead
- Sean Atkinson, Network Analyst
  - Virtualization Project Lead
- Jim O’Dell, Network Analyst
  - VCL Project Technical Lead
- Sepehr Sobhani, Manager of College Support Services
  - VCL Image Deployment
What is VCL

Virtual Computer Lab (VCL) allows CSUF students, faculty, and staff to access university-licensed computer applications via the Internet. It allows you to work on a lab computer from home or any location with a high-speed Internet connection.
VCL Architecture
VCL Concept
VCL is accessible from everywhere
Advantages of VCL: Instructors and Lab Administrators

- Broader access
  - Access 24/7
  - From home, campus, or work
- More flexible deployment
- Easier upgrade
- Efficient management and access (licensing)
- One application per VM image – don’t have to worry about application conflicts
- Images can be restricted by course, department, school, or AD security group
Advantages of VCL: Students

• Can use software first day of a class
• Don’t have to know what labs have the software
• Don’t have to spend time and money($$$) installing software
• Don’t worry about software conflicts
• Don’t worry about the uninstalling software
• Minimal hardware requirements
• Always use a clean image
VCL requires RDP

• Windows Requirement
  Remote Desktop (Built-in)

• Mac Requirement
  Microsoft Remote Desktop
  OR
  CoRD

• Chromebook Remote Desktop
  Google Play Download

• Linux-Based devices
  RDesktop
VCL limitations

• RDP limitations prevent some peripherals (e.g. scanners, microphones) from working
• RDP limitations prevent streaming video. (You won’t be able to play video clips, such as YouTube,…)
• Virtualization uses virtual GPU’s. So, it’s not ideal for graphic-intensive applications
How it works

- When a reservation is submitted
  - A virtual host system boots up a copy of the selected image
  - The selected image is configured by the manager
  - The user receives the go button
  - The user logs into the virtual system using an RDP (Remote Desktop Protocol) client
Demo of VCL
Seriously, be sure to copy your work off the system before logging out. A new reservation brings up a new, fresh image.
Useful information

• Printing creates PDF document files (PDFCreator)
• Disks from your local system are typically mapped to the virtual system (RDP mapping)
• Active reservations can be extended an hour
• Direct access - https://vcl.fullerton.edu
• Copy your files to virtual system before working on them
• Copy your files back to your system before logging out
How to get help

• Visit our tutorial page
• Phone Support
  • Students: 657-278-8888 (Chat is also available)
  • Faculty/Staff: 657-278-7777
• Walk-In Support
  • Students: Student Genius Corner (First Floor Library North)
  • Faculty/Staff: Academic Technology Center (PLS237)
  • Fill out the online form
• Email
  • Students: StudentITHelpdesk@fullerton.edu
  • Faculty/Staff: helpdesk@fullerton.edu
Laptop Checkout Program

• students who are taking a class that uses the Virtual Computer Lab (VCL) will be eligible to check out the laptops
• For details, please visit: http://sts.fullerton.edu/sgc/longtermlapTop.asp
Questions
Thank You

We hope you enjoyed this session. Please help us to improve and turn in your survey.

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