Setting up your Virtual Lab

http://www.fullerton.edu/vcl

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Meet the VCL team

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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.
Advantages of VCL: Instructors and System 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 interaction between apps
Advantages of VCL: Students

- Can use software from day 1 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 have to be worry about the uninstalling software
- Minimal hardware requirement for personal computer
VCL challenges

• Some peripherals (e.g. scanners, microphones) won’t work
• Can not play movie clips such as YouTube,…
• Not ideal for graphic-intensive applications
• Licensing: Some vendors either don’t support or require additional licenses (We haven’t run into this case yet)
VCL Requirement

• PC Requirement
  – No specific hardware requirement
  – Cable or DSL

• Mac Requirement
  – Installation of RDP Client from:
    • [www.microsoft.com/mac/remote-desktop-client](http://www.microsoft.com/mac/remote-desktop-client)
  – Cable or DSL
VCL Usage

Monthly Reservation Fall 2011

- August: 250
- September: 1196
- October: 1134
- November: 0
- December: 0
Choose the Image you want to check out.
Be sure to copy your work off the system. A new reservation brings up a fresh image.
VCL via iPad

- Make sure that you have iPad RDP app installed
How to connect your iPad
VCL for Mac
Laptops available for Students

• 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://www.fullerton.edu/sgc
VCL in the classroom and online

• Does it take a long time to get started? No
• Support material (pdf and video) available through IT
• 1% of students required additional assistance and it is available at the Student Genius Corner
Quantitative Methods (400 level)

Students are using SPSS 19 through the VCL

Students report that they can:
• devote more time to analysis
• work more consistently, which helps to reinforce skills

One student is using a laptop on a semester loan from IT. This has helped him with all of his classes.
Culture and Nutrition (300 level)

Students are using Food Processor (professional level nutrient analysis software) through the VCL.

Students report that they can:
Produce better estimates of nutrient intake than are possible using free web resources (most notably NAT 2.0 developed by U of Illinois and recommended by USDA).
Questions

For more information, please visit
http://www.fullerton.edu/vcl