Introducing the Unix Shell – Introduction transcript

This course is intended to teach you the basics of modern command-line techniques that are used to operate computers running Linux and other Unix-like operating systems, from a Raspberry Pi to a national laboratory supercomputer.

As we introduce you to the bash shell, you are going to discover a rich user environment that has many advantages for research computing:
• compose complex workflows from simple, time-tested tools
• keep a record of everything you've done
• quickly go back and repeat previous steps
• and automate tasks to save time and effort.

You don't need any prior experience of the command line for this course. We'll show you how to understand and explore the file system, and how to manage and edit files and directories. Then we'll move on to some of the more interesting things you can do with a shell such as searching for and manipulating text content in files, linking a series of programs together using pipes, and using loops to perform a repeated sequence of tasks.

By the end you'll be able to get more done in less time by writing your own reusable shell scripts, and you'll be ready to take the next step with our course in high performance computing.