



Remote Access to the CIS VLab (307)

This Howto shows to remotely access the CIS 90 Arwen VMs (virtual machines) in the CIS Virtual Lab (VLab). The CIS VLab was developed to remotely provide Distance Education students with online resources for doing lab assignments.

Supplies

- A reasonably fast computer
 - running Windows
 - o or a Windows virtual machine on a Mac computer
 - o or a Mac using the CoRD application
- A reasonably fast Internet connection

Overview



Students remotely connect to the main CIS VLab server on campus using an RDP client. RDP is already built into Windows but must be added as third party software to a Mac. Once connected the VMware vSphere Client is automatically run which then enables a student to select one of the virtual machines to use.

Preparation

You will need login credentials (usernames and passwords) for VLab and any VMs you intend to use. This information was sent to you in an email by your instructor.

Step 1 – Mac users only – manually connect to VLab

Mac users will need to download and install CoRD from <u>http://cord.sourceforge.net/</u>. Use CoRD to connect to the host: cislab.cabrillo.edu and login using your credentials.

Proceed to Step 4 to continue.

Step 2 – Windows users - download the RDP file

Download the vcenter.rdp file from <u>http://oslab.cabrillo.edu/</u> to your Desktop or some other location where you can easily find it again.

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Download the vcenter.rdp file using right-click "Save link/target/file as..." (wording depends on your browser) to your Desktop. You only need to download this RDP file once. It can be used over and over whenever you want to connect to VLab.

Fall 2013 Workaround - note, you may see two choices of RDP files to download. This is a temporary workaround until the school DNS issues get resolved. The second vcenter-ip.rdp file uses a hardcoded IP address.

Step 3 - Connect to VLab using the RDP file (Windows)

Type: Remote Desktop Connection Size: 1.37 KB Date modified: 7/29/2012 5:26 PM

The downloaded RDP file shown on the Desktop

You may see this warning:



Go ahead and Click on Connect button

Locate the downloaded RDP file on your Desktop and open it to start the connection.

When prompted for credentials, select "Use another account" and type **cislab***username* in the first field. Type your *password* into the second field.

cislab <i>username</i>
Windows Security
Enter your credentials These credentials will be used to connect to cislab.cabrillo.edu.
password
cislab\ ••••••• Domain: cislab
Remember my credentials
OK Cancel

Click OK to continue. **Don't check** *Remember my credentials* if taking multiple CIS courses since different classes may have different VLab logins.

You may get this warning:

RemoteApp				
The identity of the remote computer cannot be verified. Do you want to connect anyway?				
The remote computer could not be authenticated due to problems with its security certificate. It may be unsafe to proceed.				
Certificate name				
Name in the certificate from the remote computer: RDserver.cislab.net				
Certificate errors				
The following errors were encountered while validating the remote computer's certificate:				
The certificate is not from a trusted certifying authority.				
Do you want to connect despite these certificate errors?				
Don't ask me again for connections to this computer				
View certificate Yes No				

Click Yes to continue

The connection process will automatically start up the vSphere Client using your VLab credentials:

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RemoteA	pp
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-	
VMware vSphere Client	
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🛃 VMware vSphere Client	×
	
VMware vSphere Client	
To directly manage a sing To manage multiple hosts, vCenter Server.	e host, enter the IP address or host name. enter the IP address or name of a
IP address / Name:	vcenter.cislab.net
User name:	CISLAB
Password:	
	☑ Use Windows session credentials
🔅 Connecting	Login Cancel Help

You may get this warning:

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issue might noi ate on your ser	communication t represent a over to prevent this
Ignore	<u>C</u> ancel
	Ignore

Click Ignore to continue

Just be patient as this can take a few seconds ...

Step 4 – Navigate the VLab CIS 90 folder and Arwen VMs

After the connection is complete you will have successfully logged into VLab! At this point you will be running the vSphere Client and attached to the vCenter server:

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Click the "VMs and Templates" icon to continue.

Use the left panel in the VM and Templates view to navigate to VMs:



Click the small "+"s as necessary to open the vCenter folders

Browse pods by clicking the "+" and "-" as to navigate the various CIS 90 VMs:



CIS 90 folder open showing Arewn VMs

Step 5 – Select your VM

Every CIS 90 student has their own Arwen VM to use during the semester. Check <u>http://simms-teach.com/docs/cis90/Pod-Assignments-90-fa13.pdf</u> to see which one is yours.

Step 6 – Use the VMs

Feel free to use your VM at any time. If the VM is powered off you can power it back on again by right clicking on the name and selecting Power > Power On.



The P02-Arwen VM

Some tips for using VMs:

- Use "CIS 90 Student" when logging into the graphical desktop. This is the cis90 account.
- Hold down the Ctrl and Alt keys to release the mouse from a VM.
- Open a separate console to see more of the VM.
- While holding down the Ctrl, Windows and Alt keys tap the space bar, then F1-F7 to select a virtual terminal (tty1 to tty7).

Step 7 – Disconnect from VLab

To disconnect, use File > Exit or just click the upper-right "X" to close the VMware vSphere Client. You will then be disconnected from VLab. If you are finished with a lab assignment please shutdown your VM. If you want to continue later just close the vSphere client and your VM will continue to run.