Spatial Science Lab Account Info Sheet

Teaching and Open Computer Laboratories – Spring 2012

Overview – Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing courses offered by the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management are taught in the teaching lab and open computing lab facilities of the department of Ecosystem Science and Management.

In order to use these computers, accounts are required. Your teaching assistant or professor will assist you with activating (or creating) your account. PLEASE NOTE: this account is good only for this semester (with certain exceptions). It will become inaccessible within 1 week of the end of the semester. The account and all data files will be removed thereafter. IF YOU NEED THIS ACCOUNT TO STAY ACTIVE IN ORDER TO FINISH YOUR CLASS OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON, YOU MUST CONTACT ME (SEE BELOW) BEFORE THE SEMESTER ENDS!

Open Access  SSL Lab – The HFSB124 lab functions as an open access lab for your use for outside-of-class work if your class is conducted there AND your course is undergraduate.

If you are taking a course that has it’s lab in CTEQ B214, then CTEQ B214 and B212 function as open access labs for you. Both are located in the Centeq building in the research park - street address: 1500 Research Parkway.

The hours of operation of both buildings are 8am to 5pm on business days. The buildings are locked on weekends and holidays.

The labs have key-code combination locks. Just because the door is closed doesn’t mean you don’t have access. Just use the key code provided in class or contact your instructor or TA.

Current schedules for classes and training are posted on the respective doors. These schedules are also listed on the SSL web site. Please see ssl.tamu.edu for this information.

Using the TAMU OALs for Your Work – TAMU open access labs have the same ArcGIS software version and can be useful in completing your out of class work. See the locations and hours of these labs at oal.tamu.edu. PLEASE SEE NOTE REGARDING STORAGE, BELOW.

Accounts – In order to use the computers in the open and teaching labs in the SSL, you must have an ESSMTEACHING account. These accounts are created based on the class roster and are normally ready the first day of class. An ESSMTEACHING account consists of a user name and a password. If you can’t login or have not received your account information, contact support as outlined below.

NOTE: SSL accounts nor ssl-teaching accounts no longer work in the labs.

Storage- Your account on the SSL computer includes a “home directory”. This is a folder that only you can read/write to that resides on a file server on the network. On any computer in either the teaching or
open labs, you will be connected to this folder. It is recommended that you save all your work and course materials in this folder throughout the course. This way, your work is accessible no matter which computer you use in either lab, **OR IN THE OALS.**

To access this folder from an OAL computer (or from any computer, Mac or PC, on the TAMU campus), do the following:

To access your home directory remotely, connect to the folder:

```\essmteachingdc2.tamu.edu\homes\``

Or

```\essmteachingdc2.tamu.edu\student_materials\``

Either using a “drive mapping” or simply type the above into Start/run/. Contact support if you have problems with this.

If you are using MacOS X, in finder, select go/connect to server and use the following paths:

```smb://essmteachingdc2.tamu.edu/homes/<username>/```

And

```smb://essmteachingdc2.tamu.edu/student_materials/```

**Support** – If you need assistance in using the computers in the labs, please determine who to contact as follows.

Contact ESSM Computer/Network Support if:

- You can’t log in
- You can’t print
- The computer hangs or is slow
- Internet web sites or you home directory can’t be accessed
- Other computer problems

Contact Your Instructor if:

- You need help with the steps of a lab
- The GIS/RS software is not working as expected
- You need help with concepts related to your GIS/RS assignment
Contact info:
ESSM Computer/Network Support Contact Info
Jeff Wythe wythe@tamu.edu (979)255-0098