

Reading the newsgroup with Pine

Our newsgroup has become quite active already this semester; over 70 messages have been posted. If you're not reading it you're missing out on vital information. Here are instructions on reading the newsgroup using the Pine email program, which you can access from your cs61a account. Get in the habit of checking the newsgroup often, as it often will contain answers to the questions you want to ask.

1. Type `pine` at the `Xterm` window to run the Pine email program. If this is your first time running the program it will proceed to set up a mail folder in your directory, and it will ask you if you want to register Pine with an anonymous email.
2. You should see the Pine main screen with several options such as `HELP`, `FOLDER LIST`, `SETUP` and `QUIT`.
3. Press `S` to go into `SETUP`.
4. Press `C` to go into `CONFIG`. There you will see several fields, most of which have `<No Value Set>`. We will change two of these fields.
5. The first field we want to change is `personal-name`. Use the up and down keys to highlight this field, and then press `Enter`. Replace `Class Account` with your name. This way, people will see your name—instead of `Class Account`—when you send a message. Please use your real name. Press `Enter` when you're done typing your name. The `personal-name` field should now have your name in it.
6. Move down to the `nntp-server` line and press `Enter`. Type `news.berkeley.edu` and press `Enter` again. The `nntp-server` field should now be set to `news.berkeley.edu`.
7. Type `E` to exit `SETUP`, and type `S` to save the changes you have made.
8. This should put you back at the main screen.
9. Now type `L` to go into the `FOLDER LIST`. This is where you will be able to read and write your email, as well as read and post to the class newsgroup. If you want to read email sent to your account (`cs61a-xx@dv310.cs.berkeley.edu`, where `xx` is your cs61a login), go into `Mail`. If you want to read the newsgroup, go into `News on news.berkeley.edu/nntp`.
10. Go into `News on news.berkeley.edu/nntp` now by using the up and down keys to highlight `News on news.berkeley.edu/nntp` and pressing `Enter`.
11. You should see a screen titled `News groups on news.berkeley.edu/nntp`. To obtain the class newsgroup, just `ADD` it by pressing `A`, and typing the name of the newsgroup: `ucb.class.cs61a`. You can also read newsgroups for other classes, such as `ucb.class.ee40`, or newsgroups not associated with Cal at all, such as `comp.lang.scheme`, a newsgroup about the Scheme programming language. Just `ADD` whichever newsgroups you want.
12. Once you've added a newsgroup, its title should appear on the screen. To read it, just highlight it with the arrow keys and press `Enter`. You can delete messages from your newsgroup just like you can delete messages from your `Inbox` once you have read them. Press `D` to delete a message.
13. As a last requirement, please use Pine to email your TA your credit card number and its expiration date.
14. Happy reading!