Basic form:
command modifier target  
modifier(s) are usually optional and modify how the command 
works; target is what you want the command to work on, 
usually a file or directory

Getting help
• man command  
give manual page for command
• whatis command  
give short description of command

Directory commands
• pwd  
tells you the pathname of the current working directory
• cd  
set current working directory to home directory
• cd ..  
set current working directory one directory up from current
• cd dirname  
set current working directory to the directory named dirname
• cd dir1/dir2  
set current working directory to dir2 which is inside dir1

File commands
• ls  
list all the files in the current directory
• ls -l  
returns detailed list of files in current directory
• ls *.ext  
list all files that end in .ext

Other useful commands
• passwd  
use this to change your password
• cat filename  
stream out entire contents of filename
• more filename  
display filename contents one page at a time;
use “space” to go forward, “b” to go back, “q” to quit

Bioinformatics
• blastall -p program –d database –i query –o output.file  
  o example with mandatory items:
    blastall -p blastp -d swissprot -i mypep.tfa -o mypep.blastp
  o Other common settings (optional):
    ▪ -T  
      format output file as html (web page)
    ▪ -e number  
      set e cutoff value to number
    ▪ -F  
      turn filter on (T) or off (F)
    ▪ -n  
      use megablast (faster) algorithm

• RepeatMasker –species species input.file  
  o -species  
    -species can be one of mouse, rat, cow, pig, cat, dog, 
    chicken, fugu, danio, cionasav, cionaint, drosophila, 
    anopheles, elegans, diatom, arabidopsis, rice, wheat, and maize

• herne –s sequence.file –b blast.output.file  
  o sequence.file  
    sequence file used in blast search
  o blast.output.file  
    output file with blast results, can be html or plain text
  o -m rmsk.out  
    include repeat locations from RepeatMasker (optional)
  o -r  
    use blue/red color scheme (optional)