

CIS241

System-Level Programming and Utilities

bash Functions

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Based on material provided by Erin Carrier, Austin Ferguson, and Katherine Bowers

Declaring and calling functions

```
function my_function() {  
    commands  
}
```

```
# To call:  
my_function
```

Function parameters

Just like normal command line arguments!

```
function my_function( ) {  
    echo "You passed: $1"  
}
```

To call:

```
my_function foo
```

A TEST

```
function repeat() {  
    range=$(seq 0 $2)  
    for i in $range; do  
        echo "$1"  
    done  
}  
  
repeat "hello" 5  
repeat "!!!" 10  
repeat $1 $2
```

What does this do?

Scope

You have to mark variables as local (and is good practice)

```
function my_function( ) {  
    local x  
    x=5  
    echo "Inside function: x = ${x}"  
}  
  
x=1  
echo "Before function: x = ${x}"  
my_function  
echo "After function: x = ${x}"
```

Return values

Return value in `$?`

```
function functionName() {  
    # Do stuff  
    return 10  
}  
functionName  
echo $?
```

Return values

```
function functionName() {  
    # Do stuff  
    echo "Hi there!"  
    return 10  
}  
val=$( functionName )  
echo $val
```

What happens?

Trapping signals

Remember the whole `kill` command? You can handle it!

Common signals:

`ctrl+C` → `SIGINT` (2) → Interrupt process

`ctrl+Z` → `SIGSTP` (18) → Stop/pause process

`kill -9` → `SIGKILL` (9) → Cannot be trapped!

```
# Trap a signal
trap "<command to run>" <signal to trap>
trap "echo THIS IS A TRAP" SIGINT
```

Why relevant here?

Make your programs die gracefully!

```
function endScript {  
    # write out important data  
}  
trap endScript EXIT
```