Remote Desktop (RDC)

Install and use the VPN client
It's recommended that a Web browser not be used for terminal services, since it's a slower alternative to the following:

https://kb.brandeis.edu/display/SCI/Using+the+Brandeis+VPN (install the Pulse Secure client for Windows, and use that)
https://kb.brandeis.edu/display/SCI/RDC+PC+To+PC (using RDC once Pulse Secure is running)

That being said, however, should one decide to use a browser:

Through the Brandeis VPN website (wormhole.brandeis.edu), faculty and staff members can remotely connect to their campus computer (referred to as 'target computer' going forward) from other locations (either somewhere else on-campus or off-campus entirely.) There are some preliminary steps which must be performed on your target computer first to enable this, and which vary by operating system:

Instructions for Windows XP computers
Instructions for Windows 7 computers

Once you have completed those steps, you can use the following instructions on your other computer to connect to your target computer.

OS X is different
Computers running Mac OS X cannot be controlled using the Remote Desktop Connection protocol. However, you can use Screen Sharing (VNC) very effectively (instructions provided by Div of Science Tech Group). If you handle confidential information, please consult with LTS security if you have concerns whether this method is appropriate for you.

From your other computer (Windows)

Open a web browser (Firefox or Internet Explorer: Google Chrome doesn't work) and go to the web address wormhole.brandeis.edu. The screenshots provided below are for Firefox, but other browsers will be fairly similar.

Log in using your Brandeis username and password.

Click on the center icon on the righthand side of the Terminal Sessions heading, circled below.

Enter the title of your choice for the remote connection in the Bookmark Name field, and the name obtained in the earlier steps into the Host field. When finished, scroll down and click Add. This will bring you back to the Wormhole home page.
Under the “Session” section, enter your Brandeis username with "@brandeis.edu" and your password for the remote desktop session. If your machine is not joined to the Brandeis domain, enter your local user name and password instead.

Once back on the home page, scroll down until you see the Bookmark Name you just entered and click on it.

This will initialize the connection to your campus computer. If this is the first time you are establishing this connection on your other computer, you may be prompted to install software from Juniper Networks. Answer in the affirmative (Yes, Accept, Allow, Install, Run) to any prompts you receive. Screenshots for Firefox prompts are shown below.
You will then see your Brandeis computer’s login screen.

From your other computer (Mac)

Download the Remote Desktop Connection Client for Mac.

Configure System:

System Preferences > Security and Privacy. Click on the Lock to make changes, you will need to provide your password.

Enable the option to “Allow apps downloaded from: Anywhere.” When you enable this option, you will be presented with a dialog explaining that “Choosing “Anywhere” makes your Mac less secure.” Click the box “Allow From Anywhere”.

Open a web browser (Firefox, Safari) and go to the web address https://wormhole.brandeis.edu. The screenshots provided below are for Firefox, but other browsers will be fairly similar.

Log in using your Brandeis username and password.

Download Junos Pulse Installer. (Note, that link only works from on-campus. You can also navigate to the “Brandeis Software” link since you are logged into wormhole, look for the folder Pulse and find the .dmg installer inside). Navigate to your downloads folder, then double click JunosPulse

Click continue,
Click Install. You will be prompted for your password, enter it and click “Install Software”. Close the box indicating a successful installation.

Now that Junos Pulse is installed, you should return to System Settings > Security and Privacy and enable the option to “Allow apps downloaded from: Mac App Store and identified developers”.

You will notice that there is a new icon in your Finder toolbar.

Click on that icon and choose “Open Junos Pulse.” The “Connections” dialog will open.
Click the + button, enter “Brandeis VPN” in the name field and https://wormhole.brandeis.edu in the “Server URL” field and click ”Add“.

Now click the “Connect” button.
Enter your Brandeis username and password and click Connect. Once connected, you may close the “Connections” dialog box.

The icon in your toolbar will now have a green check mark indicating that you’re connected.

You can click on this icon to manage your connections, both to disconnect and to connect again later.

If at any time, the icon is missing from your toolbar, you may navigate to your Applications folder and double-click on “Junos Pulse”.

If you don't see the Remote Desktop Connection icon in your dock, you can launch it by typing ‘Remote Desktop Connection’ (no quotes) in the Spotlight box in the top right of your screen and hitting enter.
Type the name obtained in the earlier steps into the Computer field, then click Connect.

Important Notes on Wormhole and Security

If you've configured your target and other computers as detailed above and are unable to connect, ensure that you're running the latest version of Java.

Using the Brandeis VPN service subjects the user to the same restrictions and responsibilities as a campus user. Connections via VPN are considered direct connections to the campus network. All connection attempts are logged.

VPN users will be automatically disconnected from the Brandeis network after a predetermined amount of inactivity. The user can immediately logon again to reconnect to the Brandeis network - no work will have been lost.

Additionally, please be mindful of where you use the VPN to connect to your desktop. All computers connected to Brandeis internal networks via VPN must use the most up-to-date anti-virus software; this includes personal computers. Malicious software can log your keystrokes and steal your password. Do not use the VPN in cyber cafes, public clusters or from any computer that you do not completely trust.
Related articles

- Linux VPN Access
- Junos Pulse
- Wormhole (VPN)
- Remote Desktop (RDC)
- Uninstalling Pulse without Junos Pulse Cleaner