Setting up your workstation for SSH tunneling will make logging in and transferring files significantly easier, and installing and running an X server will allow you to use graphical software on the HPC clusters. Instructions for setting all this up are found on the HPC Wiki.

Linux users have X set up already. However, both Linux and Mac users will benefit from setting up SSH tunneling.

If you are using Windows, you should follow this page of the tutorial instead.

Preparing your Mac for X

If you wish to use any software with a graphical interface, you will need an X server. This is a software package that draws on your local screen windows created on a remote computer (such as an NYU HPC cluster).

- Download and install XQuartz

This page is retained from an earlier version of the HPC wiki only for reference, and the equivalent up-to-date page is at Accessing HPC clusters from Linux / Mac.
Prequel:
preparing your workstation for the HPC access (and this tutorial)

HPC at NYU - Before you start
HPC at NYU - Preparing your Windows workstation
HPC at NYU - Preparing your Mac or Linux workstation