

University of
Lethbridge



Azure Virtual Desktop Setup

Version 1.0

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Background

Azure Virtual Desktop

Azure Virtual Desktop (AVD) provides a method for our students, faculty, and staff to access software, Windows desktops and other resources they may need to complete their studies, perform their job functions, or to do research.

Applications and desktops are accessible from nearly any device with an internet connection. The client used to access AVD is available for nearly every device and operating system, and you can even access it from a web browser. You don't even need a VPN connection.

Because the software and desktops run in the cloud, you don't need to install anything locally (other than the client) to access these resources. Instead of installing an application on your local device you simply connect to the application and it runs on a remote computer.

Azure Virtual Desktop allows you to access all the files you have on your UofL OneDrive so no matter what device you connect from you will always have access to the information you need, as long as it is stored on OneDrive. You can even access UofL file shares too.

Security

Please ensure that the computer or device you are using is secure. Make sure that your device is updated and that Antivirus is up to date and actively scanning your computer.

If you need an AntiVirus solution, for a free alternative for AntiVirus, please download Avast!

<http://www.avast.com/en-ca/index>

Microsoft OneDrive

As a member of the UofL community, you have access to 1TB of OneDrive storage.

When using the Azure Virtual Desktop, having OneDrive installed on your local device will be essential to easily transfer files to and from the virtual desktop to your local device.

If Microsoft OneDrive is not already installed on your device, please download and install it from here:

[Download OneDrive for Windows](#)

[Download OneDrive for Apple Computer](#)

[Download OneDrive for Apple iDevice](#)

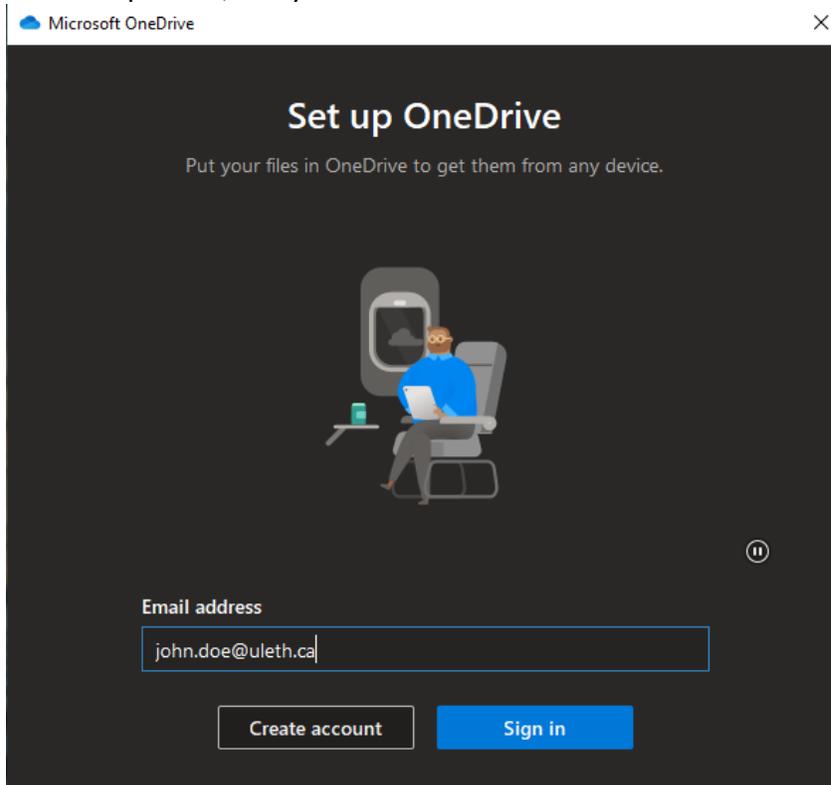
[Download OneDrive for Android](#)

Download OneDrive for Linux (not supported)

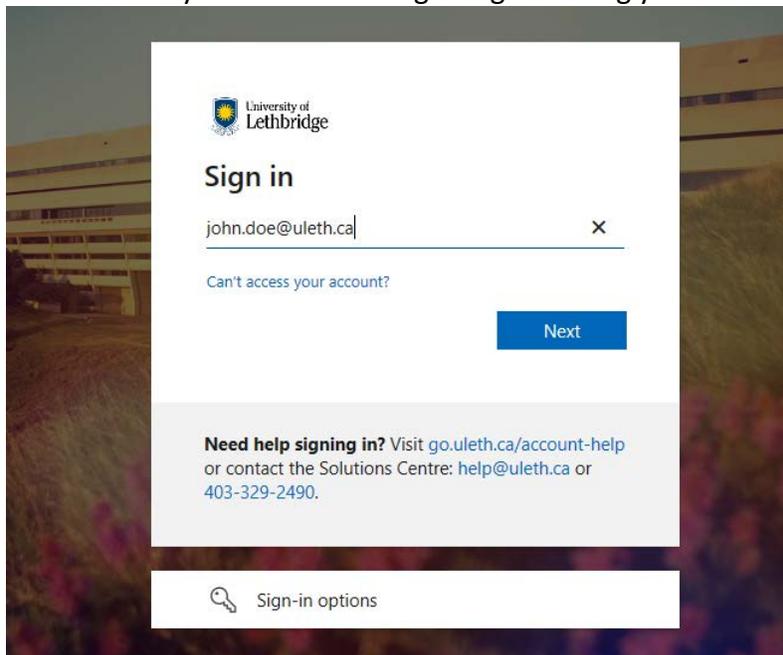
There are many open-source solutions for Linux-based computers. Some suggestions are [onedrived](#) or [OneDriveFreeClient\(fork\)](#). These are suggestions, and not officially supported.

Setup Microsoft OneDrive

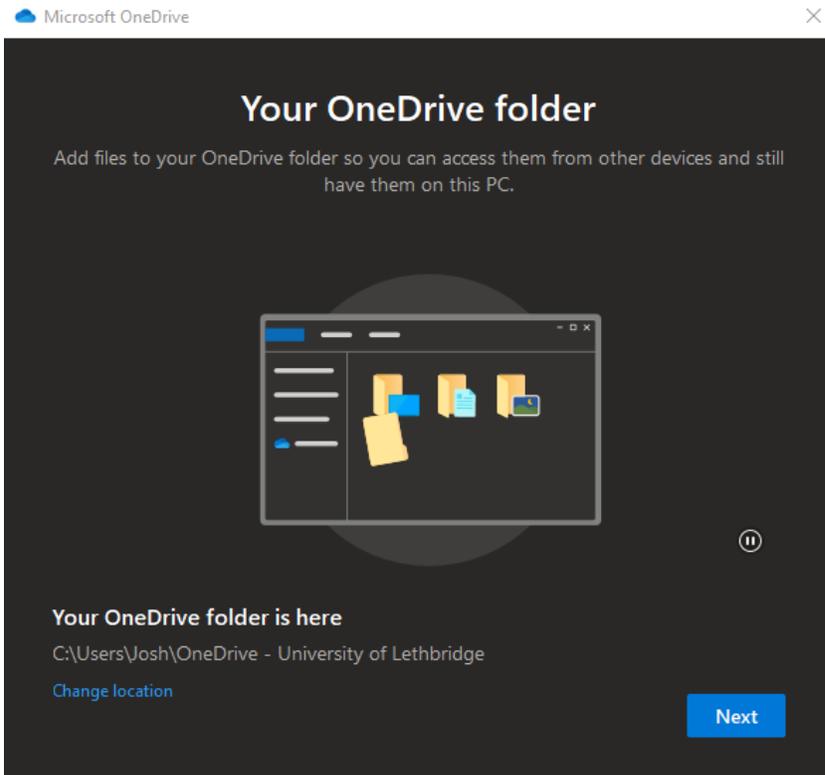
- 1) Open OneDrive. It may be located in your Start Menu\Applications. It may also show as a small 'grey cloud' in your taskbar. *(images may differ slightly depending on your device)*
- 2) When requested, use your UofL email address



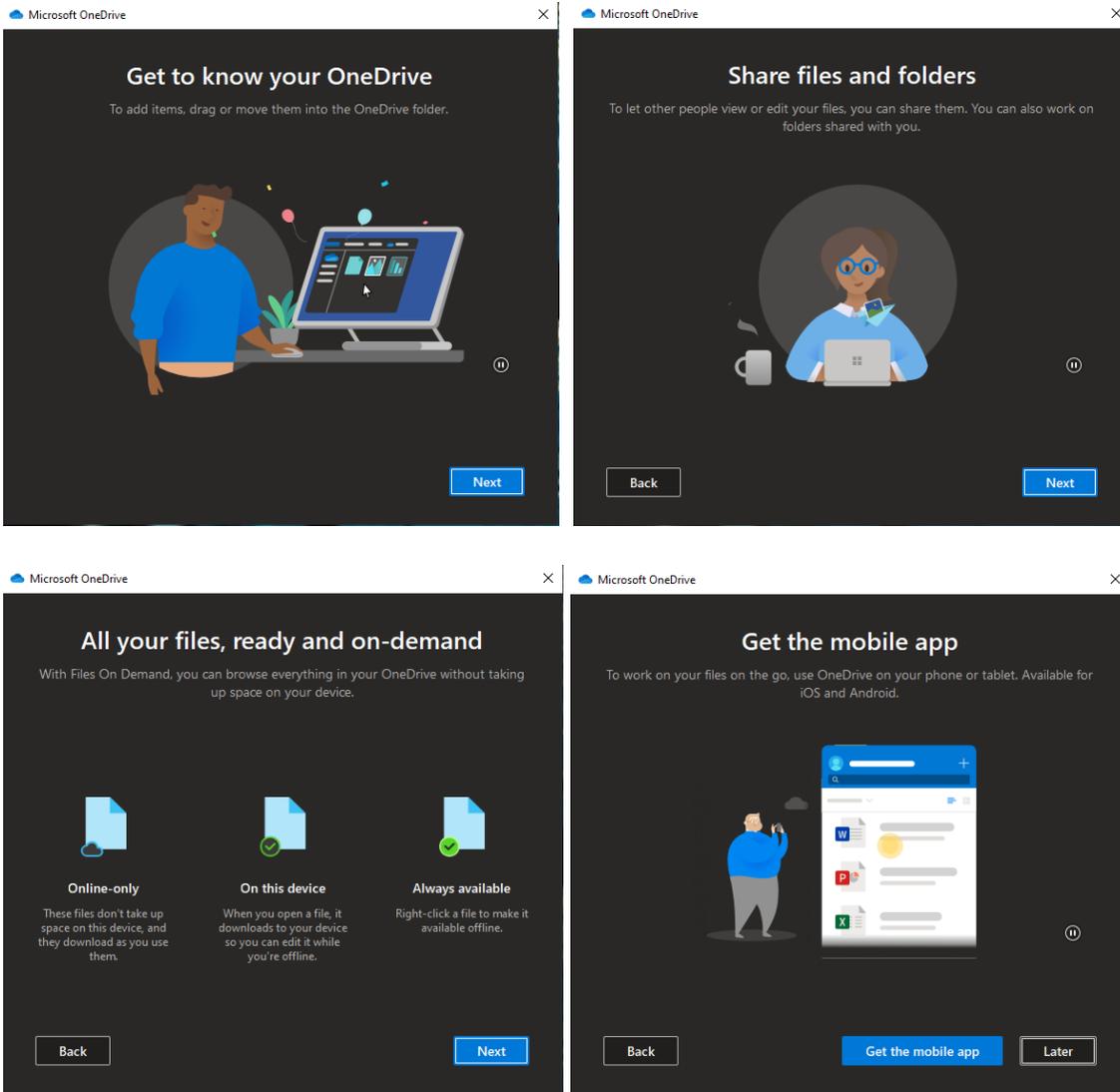
- 3) This will take you to our UofL login. Sign-in using your UofL email address and password.



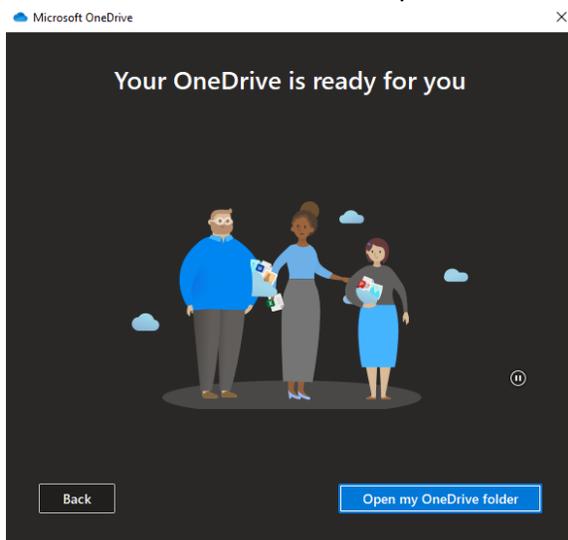
4) You will be asked to create your OneDrive folder. Click **NEXT**.



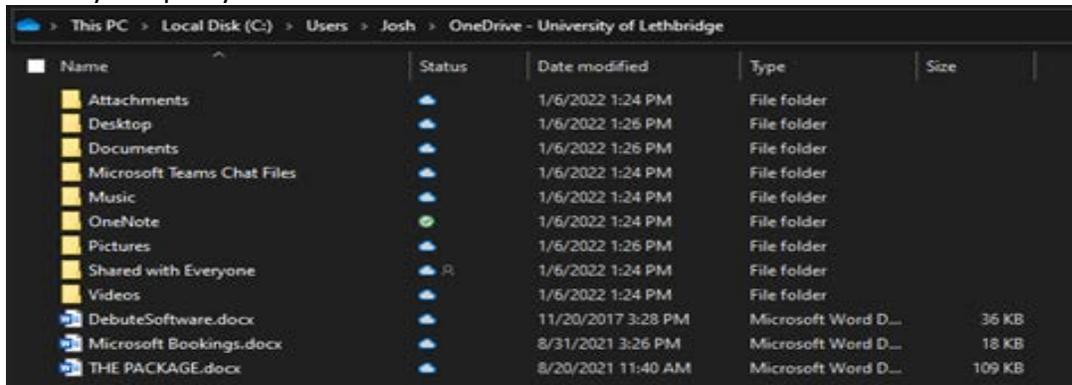
5) You will then be taken through some “Getting to Know OneDrive” screens.



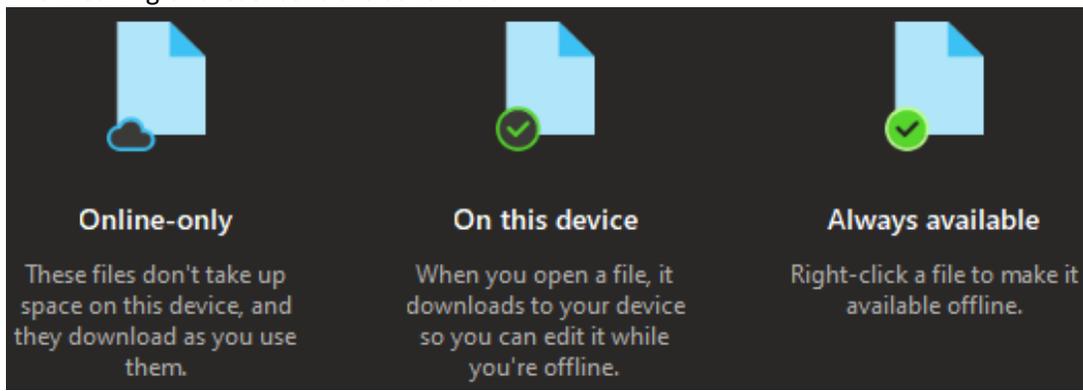
6) Click the button **LATER** to complete the setup and proceed to **Open my OneDrive folder**



7) When you open your OneDrive folder it should look similar to this.



8) A status column will appear next to your files.
The meaning of these icons are as follows:



Azure Virtual Desktop

Before you can access the Azure Virtual Desktop, you will first be required to install the Microsoft Remote Desktop client. The Microsoft Remote Desktop client allows you to run\access the programs.

If Microsoft Remote Desktop is not already installed on your device, please download and install it from here:

Download Remote Desktop for Windows ([64bit](#)) ([32bit](#)) ([ARM64](#))

[Download Remote Desktop for Apple Computer](#)

[Download Remote Desktop for Apple iDevice](#)

[Download Remote Desktop for Android](#)

Download Remote Desktop for Linux

***Testing different versions of Linux showed this to work without the need to install additional software.*

Setup Remote Desktop

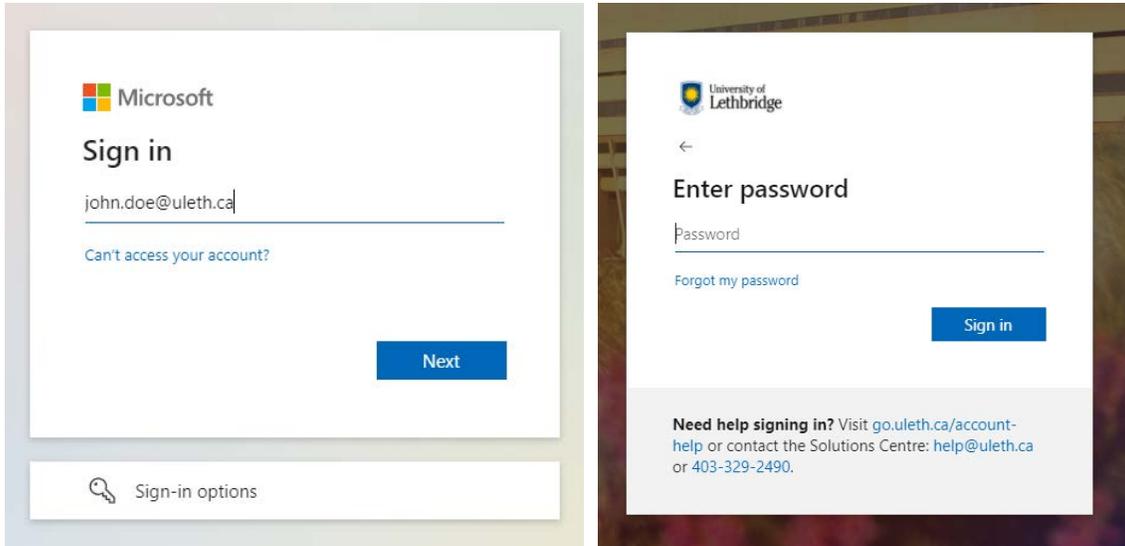
- 1) Once you've downloaded the software, installation is very straight forward.
- 2) Open the file to install and finish to complete.
- 3) It is unnecessary to open the Remote Desktop application as you will not use it directly.

Launching Azure Virtual Desktop

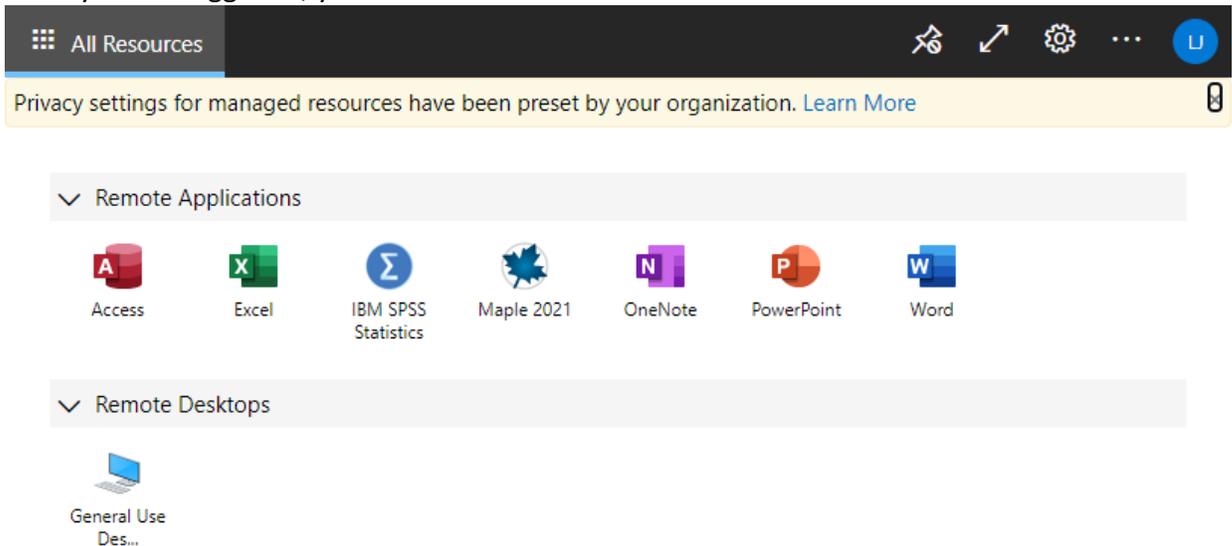
Once the Remote Desktop software has been installed, you will have the ability to access the Azure Virtual Desktop.

The following will outline how to access using the browser of your choice.

- 1) Open a web browser and go to <https://go.uleth.ca/avd>
- 2) You will be asked for your UofL email and password

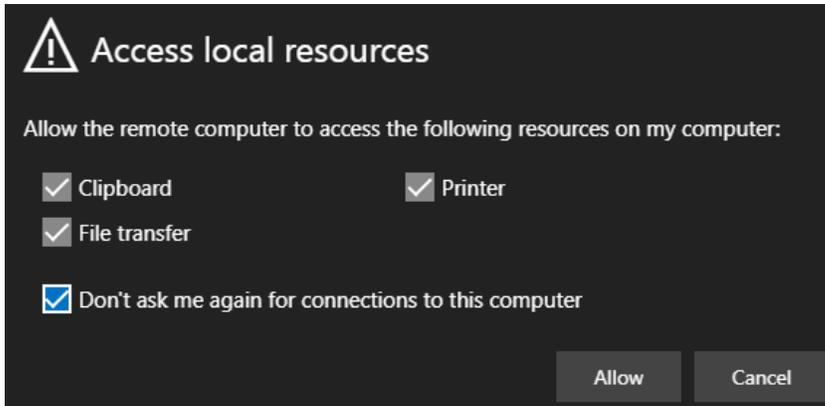


- 3) Once you are logged in, you will see the resources screen

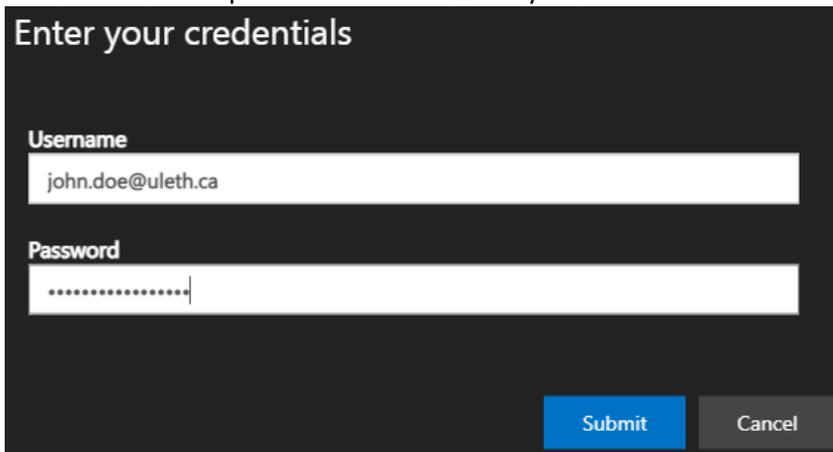


- 4) Ignore the Remote Applications, and launch the General Use Desktop (under Remote Desktops)

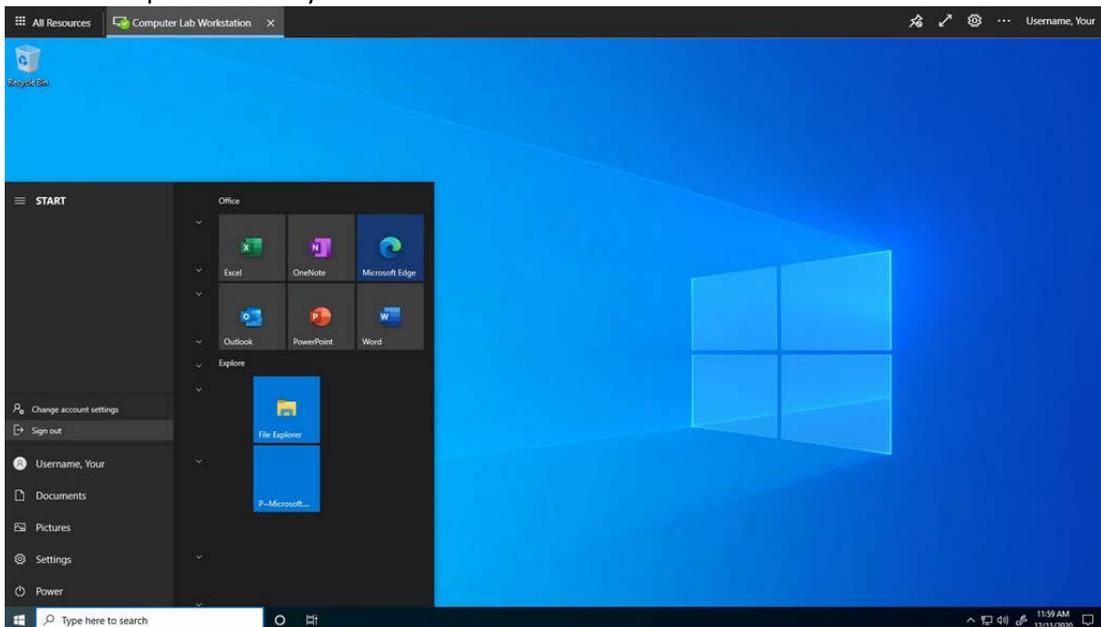
- 5) You will be asked about Access Local Resources. Check all the boxes available.



- 6) Your virtual desktop will now launch. Enter your credentials



- 7) Your desktop is now ready to use.



- 8) To end your session;
Click the Start Button → Move the mouse over the user icon → Click your Name → Select **SIGN OUT**

Accessing Files within Azure Virtual Desktop

There are (2) ways to access files within the Virtual Desktop.

The first method is to have the highly recommended OneDrive application installed on your local device. With this software installed, you can place a file into your OneDrive folder and it will appear in the Virtual Desktop. And of course, if you place/save a file in the Virtual Desktop it will appear in your local OneDrive folder.

The transfer of a file, depending on size, can take 30sec to a 1min to appear in the other location.

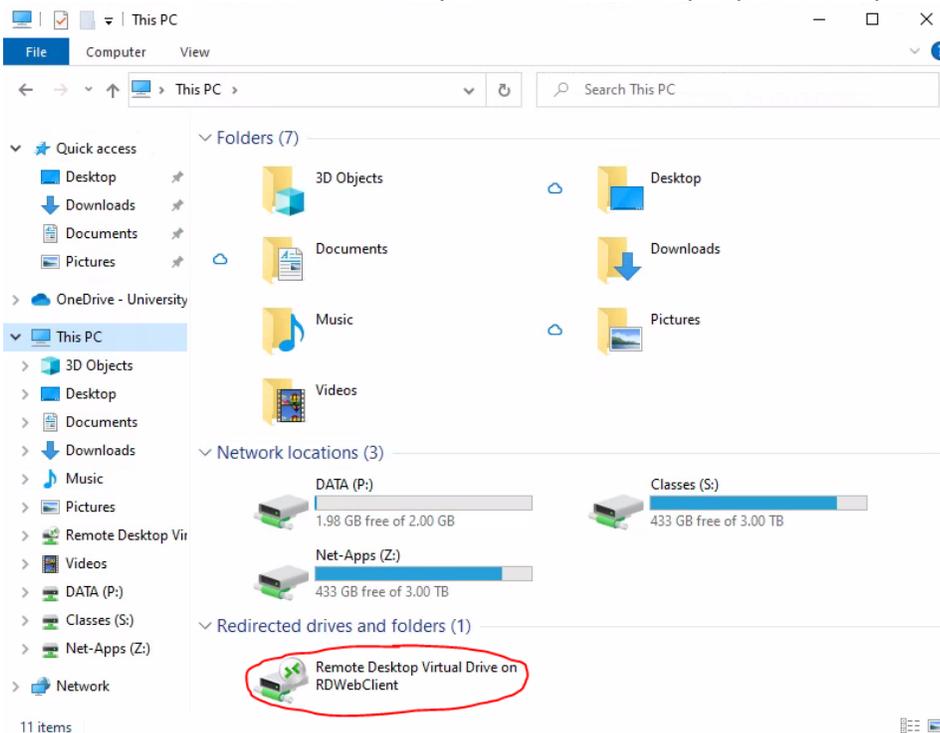
The second method is to use the built-in transfer method.

- At the top of your Virtual Desktop is an UP Arrow.



- Click this arrow to open a window, which allows you to search your local device for the file you want to transfer to the Virtual Desktop.

- Once the file has transferred, in your Virtual Desktop, open File Explorer and click on **THIS PC**



- Open the option “Remote Desktop Virtual Drive on RDWebClient”. The file you transferred is here.

- Once you find your file, move it to the DESKTOP folder as this will be easier to use with applications.