New Jersey Institute of Technology

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IT 340-452: Introduction to System Administration

Stanley Senesy

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Introduction to System Administration (eLearning)

Syllabus

Instructor: Stan J. Senesy (senesy@njit.edu)

Office: NJIT Newark, GITC rm. 3803. (973)596-5288

Office hours: Posted in Moodle

Website: http://moodle.njit.edu

Texts: Smith, CompTIA Linux+ Study Guide, Third Edition (Exam LX0-103 and LX0-104), Sybex, 2015 ISBN: 1119021219

Schedule: Online through Moodle

Course Description
This course will introduce the tasks and techniques required to perform as a system administrator of modern operating systems. Topics to be covered include: booting, process control, the file system, managing users and resources, backups, configuration management, networking, the network file system, email servers, security, hardware devices, interoperability and daemons. Whenever possible, lectures will be augmented with hands-on exercises.

Prerequisites
IT 120 – It is absolutely critical that you have completed IT 120 or a similar networking course. This will not be immediately apparent, however during the second half of the course you will have to setup and manage enterprise services that will require this networking knowledge.

Course Computing Requirements
You must have access to, and administrative rights on, a computer that meets the NJIT minimum baseline computer system standards in order to complete this course. A lab computer is not sufficient. You can find a listing of the minimum computing requirements at http://ist.njit.edu/compreq/faq.php

We will be using vCloud to create and administer virtual instances of the CentOS operating system. We will cover the configuration of your computer during the first week of class.

Please note that students are responsible for the administration/maintenance of their own computer. This includes any software loaded onto it for this course. While I will provide help with problems when I have time available, responsibility for resolving problems remains with the student.

Grading:

Participation	5%
Homework	25%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%

Grades will be computed on a straight scale out of 100 possible points: 90-100=A, 87-89=B+, 80-86=B, etc.

Course Administration

We will use Moodle for the administration of this course.

Moodle is a web site that facilitates asynchronous and synchronous communication between students and their instructor. We will use Moodle for all the interactive portions of the course. You may logon to Moodle at http://moodle.njit.edu with your UCID and password. For those with no Moodle experience, there are a number of tutorials available on the login screen.

Podcasts for the course will be linked in Moodle.

If you have problems accessing any system used in the course, please contact the Helpdesk at (973)596-2900 and send an e-mail to me at the address listed above. You should check for new postings/assignments on Moodle at least once a day.

Once the course has begun, all contact should be through Moodle. Post general questions in the appropriate forum, while private questions should be sent to your instructor through email. This will simplify my documentation requirements at the end of the course.

Participation

Each week there are podcasts provided that cover the course material. You are expected to watch these podcasts during the week that they are posted for. Your participation grade will be determined (among other things) by your viewing of the podcasts during the week that they are active. For instance, there will be a number of podcasts posted on week 1. They need to be viewed during the time period of week 1. It is not possible to make up for missed podcast grades after the fact. The course is not self-paced. It follows the same progression as the face-to-face sections.

If Moodle does not log your access to the podcasts (as shown in the screen shots that I will post), please contact the Helpdesk and have them open up a job.

Homework

I will generally assign homework during each class session. These assignments consist of lab type activities conducted in Linux. Instructions and a link to upload your work will be posted in Moodle. Any instruction lectures to go with the lab will be posted in iTunes.

Assessment

The quizzes midterm and final will constitute a significant portion of your overall grade. Exam are given online at dates and times listed in the course schedule. **Quizzes will be given online at each class session.**

The quizzes will cover material from the reading and consist of a number of multiple choice questions. You can take the quiz online at any time during the period it is open. It must be completed sequentially at one sitting however. If you miss a quiz for a non-emergency, you will receive a grade of zero for that quiz.

The midterm and final exam will be given online on the date listed in the course schedule. They will be practical (hands-on) exams that will cover the material in the homework assignments.

As a rule, I do not give makeup exams without a legitimate reason (e.g., jury duty, serious medical problem). If you have an emergency, I will make allowances once you provide proper documentation to the Dean of Students.

If for some reason you have a conflict that will cause you to miss an exam, please inform me **before** the exam so that we can arrange an alternate date for you to complete the test. You can send email or leave a phone message on my answering machine at any hour of any day.

If you must miss a class, lab, or exam because of a religious observance, it is your responsibility to report to me within the first two class sessions which days you will be missing.

Collaboration

You are encouraged to work together with your classmates in order to help your high-level understanding of the material presented in the course. Any solutions to assignments/exams/projects presented for credit must be work created **on your own**. Plagiarism, cheating, or any other anti-intellectual behavior will be dealt with as per the NJIIT Code of Academic Integrity. You can find a copy of the Code here:

https://www.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf

Academic Policies (Please Read This Carefully)

Late work will be marked down according the following scale. The timestamp in Moodle will determine how late your work was (no exceptions):

0 – 24 hours = (-10) points
24 - 48 hours = (-20) points
48 – 72 hours = (-30) points
72 – 96 hours = (-40) points
> 96 hours = no credit

If you 're-submit' homework, the later timestamp will be used to determine if it is late. Once I've graded your work, you cannot modify it and turn it in again.

If you have an emergency (hospitalization, military service, or anything defined as an emergency by the University) please contact the office of the Dean of Students. I will not accept your doctors note, etc. They will validate it and get back to me at which point I will remove the late penalty from your work. Grades will not be posted until after the 96 hour period has expired.

I do not offer 'extra credit' assignments. Every student has an equal opportunity to earn the grade they'd like in the course. The overall point spread is broad enough that doing poorly on a single assignment or quiz should not significantly affect your grade.

I do not curve individual assignments. If, at the end of the course I determine that a curve is justified, then I will curve ALL final grades (either positively or negatively) equally. Grading scales are applied consistently across the entire class - no exceptions.