

Stony Brook University CSE/ISE 311: Systems Administration

Introduction

CSE/ISE 311

Don Porter

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My Class Goals

- Build intuitions about how computers work
- Apply these intuitions to troubleshoot new problems
- Learn best practices for care and feeding of systems
- Be conversant in commonly used technologies

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Why take this class?

- Learn a practical skill
 - Easier to learn from someone else than self-teach
- Make \$\$ (or save it)
- Puts theory in context
- If lucky, you can even get inspiration for research

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Course Structure

- Lectures – the font of all truth ☺
- Readings – in case I forget any important truth
 - Not optional
- Assignments – hands on tasks, alone or with a partner
 - Better with a partner
- 2 Exams – Probably on paper.
 - Maybe I'll give you a system to debug instead.
 - Special offer: Submit your own exam questions!

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Projects

- 1) Design your own computer
- 2) Install an OS and configure network
- 3) Set up a wiki server and other security tasks
- 4) Something big

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Integrity

- Your work should be your own.
- Let's discuss this exhaustive handout

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Challenge Problems

- Some labs include challenge problems, which you may complete for bonus points (generally 5—10 points out of 100)
 - Unwise to turn in a lab late to do challenge problems
 - Can complete challenge problems at any point in the semester—even on old labs
- Indicate any challenge problems completed in challenge.txt file

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Lateness

- Each group gets 72 late hours
 - List how many you use in slack.txt
 - Each day after these are gone costs a full letter grade on the assignment
- It is your responsibility to use these to manage:
 - Holidays, weddings, research deadlines, conference travel, Buffy marathons, release of the next Zelda game, etc.
- 3 Exceptions: illness (need doctor's note), death in immediate family, accommodation for disability

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Getting help

- TA's (TBD) will keep office hours
- Instructor keeps office hours
 - Note that "by appointment" means more time available on demand

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Space in the class

- Class is currently full
- Students often over-enroll
 - Space likely to open up in first week
 - If you want in, keep showing up for a few lectures

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Lab 1 posted

- Due midnight Feb 14
- See course website for posted assignments as the semester progresses

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Other administrative notes

- Read syllabus completely
- Every student will get a VM for labs 2+
 - You may use your own computer, staff can't support it
- All staff email goes to cse311ta@cs.stonybrook.edu
 - Except private issues for instructor only

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<h2>Questions?</h2>	