

CISC 105 - Microcomputer Operating Systems

Northampton Community College, Spring 2009, MW 11:00-12:50, Rich 17

Instructor

Norman Lippincott, Asst. Professor
Cedar Crest College
Dept. Mathematical and Information Sciences
Curtis Hall, Room 214, 610-606-4666 ext. 3697
Norm.Lippincott@cedarcrest.edu

Office Hours (Cedar Crest College)

Mon: 3:00-5:00
Tue: 5:00-7:00
Wed: 3:00-5:00
Thu: 12:00-2:00

Course Description

Microcomputer operating system issues and elements using Window/DOS and UNIX/Linux; interfaces, batch and program information files, memory management, configurations, file systems, and communications with emphasis on the similarities and differences between the two operating systems.

Course Materials

Textbook and Online Resources

Proffitt, B., *Introducing Ubuntu: Desktop Linux*; Thompson Course Technology, 2008. ISBN-13: 978-1-59863-415-0. ISBN-10: 1-59863-415-1.

Official Ubuntu Documentation, <https://help.ubuntu.com/8.10/>

Other Web resources as noted by your instructor

Software

Lab assignments for this course will require Ubuntu 8.10, which can be downloaded from <http://www.ubuntu.com/>, and will also be provided by your instructor. Hardware facilities for installation of this operating system will be provided in the classroom.

Assignments

Course assignments, selected course notes, and other online resources will be posted on a web site set up by your instructor at <http://cisc105.nlippincott.org/>.

Course Objectives

- Describe the function and components of an operating system.
- Identify and describe the purpose for the components of a file system for a microcomputer operating system.
- Use commands and utilities to manage files of a file system.
- Identify and describe the ways devices can be managed through the operating system.
- Be able to write shell scripts.
- Compare Windows and Linux in terms of file system, memory management, configurations and communications.

Course Schedule

Here is a tentative schedule of topics for the course, associated textbook readings, and assignment due dates. Be aware that the dynamics of the class, which may include topic difficulty, student interest, etc., may cause this schedule to be adjusted throughout the semester.

Unit	Dates	Topic	Assignment Due
1	1/21, 1/26	Course Introduction and Organization Open Source Software Linux Distributions (Chapters 1, 2)	2/2
2	1/28, 2/2	Installing Ubuntu Linux (Chapter 3)	2/9
3	2/4, 2/9	Desktop Basics (Chapter 4) Getting Online (Chapter 5)	2/16
4	2/11, 2/16, 2/18	Linux Command Line (Notes, Web Resources) Test Review, 2/18	3/2
5	2/23, 2/25, 3/2	Installing Software (Chapter 6) Test, 2/25 (Units 1-4)	3/9
6	3/4, 3/9	Ubuntu Multimedia (Chapters 13, 14)	3/23
7	3/11, 3/23	File Management (Chapter 9, Web Resources)	3/30
8	3/25, 3/30	User Management (Ubuntu Documentation)	4/6
9	4/1, 4/6, 4/8	Linux Networking (Ubuntu Documentation) Test Review, 4/8	4/20
10	4/13, 4/15, 4/20	FTP, NFS, Samba (Ubuntu Server Guide) Test 4/15 (Units 5-9)	4/27
11	4/22, 4/27	LAMP Server, part 1 (Ubuntu Server Guide)	5/4
12	4/29, 5/4	LAMP Server, part 2 (Ubuntu Server Guide)	5/11
	5/6, 5/11	Final Exam Review	
	TBA	Final Exam	

* = Quiz Date

Assessment

- Unit Assignments (12): 36% (each worth 3% of final grade)
- Tests (2): 36% (each worth 18% of final grade)
- Final Exam: 24%
- Class Participation: 4%

Unit Assignments

Each unit will have a corresponding lab assignment with associated written work to be turned in. Class time will be allocated for completion of the lab portion of each assignment.

Tests

Two tests will be given throughout the semester. Each will consist of problems, short answer, and short essay questions. Test topics will include topics from class lectures and unit assignments. Your instructor will provide a list of topics for each test and conduct an in-class review one week prior to the test date.

Final Exam

The format of the final exam will be the same as that of the tests, but longer. The last two

class meetings are reserved for final exam review. The date of the final exam will be posted. The final exam is comprehensive.

Grading Scale

A final, weighted average is computed based on the percentages of the assessment items above, and is rounded to the nearest full percent. A final grade is then assigned according to the following scale:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ● 93-100: A | ● 80-82: B- | ● 67-69: D+ |
| ● 90-92: A- | ● 77-79: C+ | ● 60-66: D |
| ● 87-89: B+ | ● 73-76: C | ● 0-59: F |
| ● 83-86: B | ● 70-72: C- | |

Policies

Attendance

Regular attendance is an important factor contributing to the student's success in the class. Although much of the material covered in class comes from the textbook, some course content comes from the instructor's notes or other resources, and may be delivered only in lecture form. The student is responsible for all material covered in class, and should arrange to get notes from another student in the event of absence from class. The instructor's notes are not available for perusal by the students.

Your instructor keeps an attendance record for the class, however this record does not directly affect the student's grade. If a student has excessive absence and is not showing responsibility for the course material, a report of concern will be issued to the Advising Center.

If the student is absent on the day of a test, quiz, or other in-class assessment event, arrangements for a makeup must be made in advance. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for the test. Exceptions are granted only in extreme cases with proper documentation.

Due Dates and Late Work

Each assignment, project, or other out-of-class assessment item has an associated due date. Due dates are announced in class, appear on the course syllabus, and can also be found on the course web site.

Ample time is provided for completion of each assignment. You should begin work on each assignment shortly after it is posted - waiting until the day before (or worse, the day) the assignment is due is a recipe for failure.

By turning in assignments on time your work will be graded and returned in a timely manner (usually within one week), and with comments as appropriate.

Late work will be accepted up to two weeks past the due date and will be subject to the following

- A penalty of 20% of the total possible score will be assessed.
- The assignment may be graded without comment.
- The assignment will be graded at the instructor's convenience, possibly as late as the end of the semester.

Any work that is not turned in within two weeks of the due date will receive a grade of zero.

Academic Honesty Policy

Northampton Community College considers honesty to be essential to the learning experience. Academic honesty is one of the values that we expect members of the NCC community will apply in their work on this campus and take into their lives beyond NCC. Violations of academic honesty harm the learning experience and violate the expectations and values that we hope the NCC community embraces. We expect all members of the NCC academic community to conduct themselves and their work ethically and honestly.

Student Responsibilities:

- Students are solely responsible for their work and for making sure that their work represents their own honest efforts to meet the goals of the course.
- They are responsible for learning and following the policies and expectations of the college and for understanding the consequences of actions that violate the policy on academic honesty.
- They are responsible for showing that the work they present is theirs in whatever ways are deemed appropriate by the faculty for the course.

Faculty responsibilities :

- Faculty members are responsible for demonstrating academic honesty in their work.
- They are responsible for making their expectations related to academic honesty clear to their classes including which activities and resources are allowed and the consequences for violations in their courses.
- They are responsible for communicating about violations of the academic honesty policy to students and their division Dean and to the Vice president for Student Affairs.

Consequences of Plagiarism: Violations of the academic honesty policy include any actions that attempt to gain academic credit for work that does not represent the student's own efforts and knowledge. They include, but are not limited to the following situations and examples:

Cheating on examinations and quizzes

- Using notes, materials, and/or mechanical, electronic, or technological devices not authorized by the instructor during examinations and quizzes.
- Providing or receiving help on an examination or test in a manner not authorized by the instructor.
- Buying, selling, improperly obtaining, or using any tests or examinations
- Posing as another student or allowing another student to pose as you when taking an exam or quiz
- Altering or adding answers on exercises, exams, or quizzes after the work has been graded
- Plagiarizing
- Using the ideas or words of others without appropriate quotation and documentation that acknowledges the source or sources—in other words, presenting someone else's work as one's own
- Copying exact words, phrases, or sentences without quoting and giving credit to the source
- Using a paraphrased version of the opinions, work, or ideas of others without giving credit
- The wrongful appropriation of all or part of someone else's literary, artistic, musical, mechanical, or computer-based work
- Copying all or part of an assignment (research paper, lab report, or workbook) from another person or resource and presenting it as your own work

- Purchasing an assignment and submitting it as your own work
- Falsifying or inventing information, data, or research material
- Altering or forging records or submitting false records as part of course work or making false statements, excuses, or claims to gain academic credit or influence grading
- Listing sources that you never consulted
- Gaining unauthorized access to another person's or the College's computer system or tampering with or copying programs, files, data, or access codes associated with coursework
- Tempering with or damaging the work of others or preventing others from completing their own assignments

A faculty member may apply one of the following penalties:

- A written warning with the requirement that the assignment be redone within the instructor's specified time
- A failing grade for the assignment or test
- An "F" for the course

The penalty which will be applied in this class is a failing grade for the assignment or test for the first offense, and an "F" for the course for the second offense.

Class Cancellations

College-wide class cancellations are announced on the regular media outlets and on the college web site. In the rare event your instructor must cancel an individual class, every effort will be made to notify students via e-mail of the class cancellation. You instructor collects contact information at the start of the semester for this purpose. Please be advised that advance notice of an individual class cancellation is not always possible.

Students with Disabilities

Northampton Community College encourages academically qualified students with disabilities to take advantage of its educational programs. Services and accommodations are offered to students with disabilities at no additional cost to facilitate accessibility to College programs and facilities. These services are based upon each student's individual needs and must be indicated by current documentation of disability. For more information, you can contact the Coordinator of Disability Services at 610-861-5342 or TDD (610) 861-5351 or view the Disability Services Webpage by following these links from the NCC home page

(<http://www.northampton.edu>): Administration > Student Services > Students With Disabilities

Release of Confidential Information

In order to remain in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the following policies will be in effect with regard to the release of information related to the student's academic record (i.e. grades):

- Your instructor may personally discuss such information with you, and may do so via telephone.
- Your instructor will not leave such information on an answering machine or voice mail system.
- Your instructor will not release such information to any third parties (such as a parent or spouse) without the student's written consent. If you wish to make such arrangements, please contact the Advising Center.
- Your instructor will reply to requests for such information via e-mail only to e-mail addresses within the northampton.edu domain. Replies to addresses hosted at other domains will be denied.
- Your instructor will post final grades on Campus Web as soon as final grades are calculated. This is the earliest method by which this information becomes available.
- You may provide your instructor with a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of materials at the end of the semester. However, the student must personally deliver the envelope to the instructor. Envelopes delivered via other means will not be used.

Extra Credit

Your instructor may, at his option, offer the class an extra credit assignment, based on the overall need of the class. How such an assignment affects the grade will be determined if and when the extra credit assignment is offered. Individual requests for extra credit will not be granted.

Incomplete Grades

The College Catalog includes the following policy with regard to incomplete grades:

A temporary grade of incomplete (I) is given only to a student who is doing passing work in a course but who, for reasons beyond the student's control, is not able to complete a major assignment or examination by the deadline for submitting grades.

The Provost's Office has further clarified this policy to faculty in the following statement:

Note, in particular, the phrase "beyond the student's control", which indicates an event such as an accident, injury, or catastrophic personal situation that prevents the student from completing a single assignment or examination at the very end of the semester; a student's failure to complete past or current work resulting from neglect or poor time management is not an appropriate justification for an incomplete grade. Note also that a student who is currently failing a course should not be given an incomplete.

Final Exam

Your obligations for this course include attendance at a final exam. Your attendance is expected on the day and time the exam is scheduled by the Registrar's Office. You should not make travel arrangements until the final exam schedule is published; if you must make plans early, you should schedule your travel after the last final exam day.

Classroom Protocol

All students and faculty are entitled to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations, and any other behavior that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their education.

Generally, disruptive behavior in the classroom is any behavior that interferes with the process of learning. It is the right of every student and faculty member to engage in a classroom experience free from disruptive behavior.

What is disruptive to one person might not be disruptive to another, so the final authority on disruptive behavior is the faculty member. Faculty members have the authority to address disruptive behavior in the manner they see fit.

Disruptive behavior may be viewed on a continuum ranging from the isolated incidents of mildly annoying or irritating behavior to more clearly disruptive, dangerous, and/or violent behavior.

Examples of disruptive behavior may include the following:

- Persistent speaking without permission
- Use of electronic devices, cell phones, or pagers during class
- Threats or harassment of any kind
- Poor personal hygiene
- Revealing dress
- Working on homework for other classes
- Inappropriate personal disclosures during class (sharing too much information)
- Sleeping in class
- Entering class late or leaving early (without permission)
- Eating/drinking in class without permission

- Disputing authority and arguing with faculty and other students
- Physical disruptions or physical altercations

Additionally, classroom participants should note that basic human courtesy is an expectation when interacting with faculty members, staff, and other students. What constitutes basic courtesy varies from one individual to the next, but the following guidelines are appropriate for nearly any situation and are certainly expected in the academic setting.

Class Visitors

Anyone not registered for the course who wishes to sit in as a visitor must obtain permission from the instructor in advance. Class visitors are to adhere to the same classroom protocol as is expected from registered members of the class. For classes held in a computer classroom, visitors will not be permitted to use the computers in the classroom.

Computer Classrooms

When a class is held in a computer classroom, the computers in the room are to be used for class-related activities only. Using the computers for Web browsing, instant messaging, gaming, or other non-class-related activities is prohibited.

Specifically, students are to follow these guidelines during class:

- Students should not have any instant messaging programs open during class. Being signed on to an instant messaging program with an away message active is considered a violation of this policy.
- Students should not have any e-mail program open during class.
- Students should not have any web browser open, except for activities specifically authorized by the instructor.

Verbal Communications

Faculty members are not part of your social circle or peer group and should not be addressed as such. On the first day of class, faculty members will introduce themselves and express how you should address them. Addressing a faculty member by his or her first name is not acceptable unless the faculty member invites you to do so.

When addressing a faculty member in person, use a positive, respectful approach. Ideally, you should meet with faculty members during their scheduled office hours and not at the beginning or end of class unless the interaction will be brief.

When using the telephone, be sure to identify yourself at the beginning of the conversation. Be brief and concise, particularly when leaving a voice mail message.

Written Communications

When sending email, remember that your writing conveys an image of you and demonstrates respect for the recipient. Treat email as you would any other written correspondence: Begin with the appropriate greeting, use complete sentences with good grammar and spelling, use a friendly and polite tone, and expect that faculty members will return your correspondence when they are able. Expecting an “instant response” is not realistic.