

CECS 476

System and Network Administration

Background: Unix/Linux, Operating Systems, Computers, Reading (CECS 326)

Goals:

- 1) Administer a Multiuser, networked computer
- 2) Set up an internet server.

Course Structure:

1 Midterm; Final
daily assignments

Course Organization:

Cover the principles (lecture).

Investigate the existing installation (assignment)

Administer your machine (assignment)

Essentially, modify or install information on your machine.

Book:

Any Linux administration book may be used to supplement the lecture.

A good book I know of is listed as “required” and is in the book store.

Operating system and hardware:

Special machines are assigned to this course.

They run Linux, which is based on Unix.

Principle Machines: lab34...lab51, lab66..lab84

Other Machines: cheetah, jaguar, puma, cougar, panther,
lynx, ocelot

Documentation:

Manual entries.

Slides:

Available on the course server, cheetah.

Warnings

You will be given system administrator privileges on a machine, this makes it very easy to destroy the disk, hence the capability of the machine to run.

It may be possible that you can destroy other user's accounts.

Rules:

- 1) Read the instructions.
- 2) Administer only the machine assigned to you.
- 3) Assignments may involve cheetah, lynx, cougar, jaguar, panther, etc. You may install software in your home directory that runs on these (please ask). Do not attempt to administer these machines.
- 4) Use your administrator (root) privileges *only* to complete the assignments or for other accademic purposes.
- 5) Maintain a log of what you do as the system administrator. (You will be able to repeat it if it worked. It will be easier to correct it if it broke something. You will find it helpful in the exams.)
- 7) Do not change passwords unless instructed to do so. Before some administrative assignments, I will access your machine to disable or remove something which you will have to fix or install.