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Conclusion

My personal thoughts on Ubuntu, having researched the OS and heard what members of the community have to say, as well as the claims of Canonical themselves, are largely positive. Having said that, these thoughts also come from a position of greater theoretical knowledge than practical exposure. My default OS has been Windows 10 Pro for several years at this point, and I have only dipped my toes into the Linux market briefly in the past.

My first exposure was an ill-fated installation of ZorinOS, which promised to be the most familiar alternative to the native Windows environment, and I have little doubt that the transition for someone with more experience would have been relatively seamless. However, at the time I had very little under-the-hood knowledge of operating systems, or computer software in general. I kept track of advances in the computer hardware market, but my insights there were also fairly surface level. All of this is to say that, when presented with the challenge of contending with aging hardware (spare parts from an upgraded pc build) and unsupported GPU drivers with no access to the motherboards native display out (VGA), I did not have the skills or the knowledge to work around these issues. My hope is that, having completed this course, future forays into the realm of Linux, and Ubuntu specifically will be more fruitful.

Obviously, I have had exposure to Ubuntu during this course, both in the AWS platform we have all used to host our websites and also through the Windows Subsystem for Linux, recommended to me by a friend to test my project for the Object-Oriented Programming module in our first semester. The experience has been very illuminating, and learning how powerful the terminal can be, from installing apps to simply browsing the file system, was an eye-opener. My intention is to pursue Ubuntu more actively in the near future, either installing the latest version on a dedicated piece of hardware, or investigating Docker and other container-based systems, possibly Proxmox, to create something in the way of a home server, with Ubuntu handling daily desktop tasks.

