

Introduction To Linux - Course Outline

Instructors:
Joshua Bruton
Or Hanoach
Devon Jarvis
Nathan Michlio
Meir Rosendorff

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Part I

General

Target Students

1st year students who want to do a complete 3 year COMS major aswell as anyone interested in getting started with linux.

Time Per Week

2 x 45 minutes

Course Goal

To help COMS students familliarize themselves with linux - which in turn will help them in there studies. Also to spread the love of linux around and in turn make the world a slightly better place.

Part II

Detailed Sections

1 Introduction + general tip

1.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be told what will be taught in this course and be given general tips to keep in mind that will help them in there learning, in this course aswell as in any other course.

1.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should have a general idea of what this course is about, whether they want to attend it and how to study for this course.

1.3 Time

45 minutes

1.4 Tasks

Format Linux on your laptop if you have one

1.5 Points for lessons

1. Introduction to instructors - who we are
2. What to expect from the course
3. Going over the chapters the course
4. Google and stack overflow
5. <website to bash tutorial>
6. Formatting Linux - virtualbox vs. dual boot vs. full format
7. Things will break - alot - dont be scared to experiment!

2 What is Linux - basic history and theory

2.1 Section Summery

In this section we will cover the basics of the origin of linux and some other linux basics such as what distros are.

2.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be familiar with the term GNU/Linux, and the ideas of distros, desktop environments, software managers and file systems, as well as being familiar with some of the most popular implementations.

2.3 Time

75 minutes

2.4 Tasks

No tasks for this section

2.5 Points for lessons

1. What is GNU vs what is Linux, Richard Stallman and Linus Torvalds
2. What are distros (including forked distro examples) and what are desktop environments
3. The idea of a filesystem
4. The idea of a package manager
5. What is the Linux terminal and what is bash
6. GPL and opensource

3 Basic commands

3.1 Section Summary

In this section students will be introduced to the most basic linux commands and will start experimenting with bash for the first time

3.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be able to navigate the filesystem through the terminal and make, move and copy files.

3.3 Time

45 minutes

3.4 Tasks

Students will navigate around in their home folder, create directories and move and delete them

3.5 Points for lessons

1. pwd
2. cd
3. touch
4. mkdir
5. ls
6. mv
7. cp
8. rm
9. copy paste with ctr+shift
10. ctr+c and ctr+z
11. cat

4 The Linux file system

4.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to the linux filesystem, aswell as each directory in root and its perpose, and be given examples of different files located in the different directories.

4.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should have the basic idea of what each folder in root is for.

4.3 Time

45 minutes

4.4 Tasks

Navigate through the file system and look at the files from the examples and other files.

4.5 Points for lessons

1. All directories are files
2. what each directory in / is
3. what ~ is

4.6 examples:

1. /dev/sda
2. /proc/meminfo
3. /proc/cpuinfo
4. /proc/partitions
5. /etc/environment
6. /etc/issue
7. /home/user/Desktop
8. /mnt

5 Pipelines

5.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to the concept of piplines and the useful combination with grep

5.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should know how to use grep

5.3 Time

15 minutes

5.4 Tasks

Students will practice using grep on outputs of cat, such as 'cat /proc/meminfo | grep Total'

5.5 Points for lessons

1. Explanation on what pipelines are
2. grep
- 3.

6 Sudo make me a sandwich

6.1 Section Summery

In this section will be introduced to the term sudo and why it is important.

6.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should know what sudo is and understand why sudo is not redundant

6.3 Time

25 minutes

6.4 Tasks

As students don't have sudo privillages in the labs time will be well spent looking through xkcd comics

6.5 Points for lessons

1. What is a user and what is a superuser/root
2. The importance of sudo
3. Examples of files that require sudo to be edited

7 vim

7.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be taught the basics of using the vim text editor

7.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should feel comfortable creating or modifying a text file and editing it.

7.3 Time

90 minutes

7.4 Tasks

Students will create a text file and edit it, trying out the different capabilities of vim

7.5 Points for lessons

1. Existence of alternatives such as nano and emacs
2. Entering insert mode
3. Saving and exiting
- 4.
5. Showing that it automatically color codes different file types
6. Delete with dd
7. / for search
8. .swp files

8 Important files

8.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to some useful files and will experiment in editing them.

8.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be aquanted with some system files and feel comfortable editing them.

8.3 Time

45 minutes

8.4 Tasks

Students will add environment variables using `/etc/config` and using `.bashrc`

8.5 Points for lessons

1. .bashrc
2. /etc/environment + explanation of environment variables
3. /etc/hosts + explanation of conversion of ip to urls
4. /etc/hostname
5. ifcfg files
6. /dev/null
7. /dev/zero

9 More Linux Commands

9.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to some more useful linux commands.

9.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should have some more tools to get around linux and be able to do most of what is required when running linux as a primary OS.

9.3 Time

45 minutes

9.4 Tasks

Students will create a file and change the permissions to it and see how the changes take effect. They will also take a look at the man page for apt-get

9.5 Points for lessons

1. man
2. tail
3. top
4. apt-get / yum / pacman / etc..
5. chmod

10 Mounting

10.1 Section Summery

In this section students will get aquanted with the term of mounting

10.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should know how to manually mount and unmount via terminal a device like a usb flash drive if it is not automatically mounted or unmounted. The students should know the purpose of `/etc/fstab` but wont know how to edit it themselves.

10.3 Time

25 minutes

10.4 Tasks

Students will have a look at `/etc/fstab`. If they have a usb available they will also plug it in, and mount and unmount it.

10.5 Points for lessons

1. Explain the consept of mounting
2. why mount `/home`?
3. Example of mounting
4. `/etc/fstab`

11 ssh and remote copy

11.1 Section Summery

In this section students will learn how to enter a remote computer via terminal, aswell as copy files off of a remote computer.

11.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be able to access remote computers.

11.3 Time

35 minutes

11.4 Tasks

Students will take turns and ssh to there neighbors computer and create a file on the desktop while there neighbor sees the file being created. they will then copy that file to there own desktop using rcp and see it being created.

11.5 Points for lessons

1. Basic ssh
2. rcp
3. rsync
- 4.
- 5.

12 tmux

12.1 Section Summery

In this section students will learn how to improve productivity and share a terminal using tmux.

12.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should have a basic idea of the advantages of tmux and how to use it.

12.3 Time

45 minutes

12.4 Tasks

Students will create a tmux session and in it split the screen into three, 1st split horizontally and 2nd split the top screen vertically. They will run 'top' on the lower screen, 'cat ~/.bashrc' in the top left and 'man mkdir' in the top right. They will then create a new window and run 'vim' in it.

12.5 Points for lessons

1. Splitting screen
2. Creating new window
3. Attaching and detaching
4. Logging in multiple times using ssh

13 Bash scripts

13.1 Section Summery

In this section students will learn the basics of bash scripting, and bash syntax.

13.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be able to create basic bash scripts to automate basic tasks.

13.3 Time

45 minutes

13.4 Tasks

Create a bash script that downloads files of game data from the snake server.

13.5 Points for lessons

1. #!/bin/bash
2. Variables
3. if statements
4. for loops
5. wget

14 Git and Github

14.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to git and github and how to manage code and do version control.

14.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be able to open a github repository for a new project and manage it.

14.3 Time

45 minutes

14.4 Tasks

Students will create a github account, create a repository, initialize a local copy of the repository, add a file, add, commit and push to the repository. They will then go online and see the file appear in the gui interface.

14.5 Points for lessons

1. What is github
2. what are branches
3. git initialize
4. git add
5. git commit
6. git push

15 Even More Linux Commands

15.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to linux commands that are good to know, but not necessary for daily linux use.

15.2 Goal

By the end of this section students should be comfortable trying out different linux commands and googling for them.

15.3 Time

45 minutes

15.4 Tasks

Students will try out the different linux commands mentioned and try to see which hardware pieces they can see using 'lspci' and how much memory is left on /home using 'df'

15.5 Points for lessons

1. lspci
2. df
3. tar

4. ps
5. date

16 More Advanced Linux Theory

16.1 Section Summery

In this section students will be introduced to some more in depth linux terms.

16.2 Goal

By the end of this section should be able to watch a 'linux sucks' presentation and understand and laugh about most of it.

16.3 Time

45 minutes

16.4 Tasks

No tasks for this section

16.5 Points for lessons

1. systemd
2. X and wayland

16.6 wkerjweq

1. qwe
2. qw
3. eq
4. weqe qeqeqeqeique qeqssdfseqweuiueqewqweiuqe