



Southern Luzon State University  
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## **CPE29 SEMINAR AND FIELDTRIPS**

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JUNE 2025

Reaction Paper on Seminar 1:

**“INITIATE: Introduction to Web and System Administration”**

Listening to our first seminar entitled *INITIATE: Introduction to Web and System Administration* was an eye-opener for me as a 4th-year Computer Engineering student. From the beginning of the program, it was apparent that the activity was well-organized and aimed at providing students like us with practical insights into the actual applications of our course. The seminar was initiated with introductory statements and immediately proceeded to the speaker's presentation, which set the tone for a day of learning.

The speaker, Mr. Jayven Villanueva, discussed not just technical knowledge but experiences from real life as well, making the lecture more interesting and easier to grasp. He described the functions of web and system administrators, and how these two are different from network engineers. He presented a number of servers such as web servers such as Apache and NGINX, database servers such as MySQL, and virtualization software such as Proxmox. He even talked about the usage of Linux vs. Windows as system servers, their benefits, and their applications in the IT sector.

The issues covered during the seminar will surely be beneficial to us in our professional careers. Learning about tools like PuTTY and concepts such as proxy servers and virtualization gave us a clearer idea of what to expect in system administration jobs. Mr. Villanueva also shared certification suggestions and technical skills that are in demand, which can guide us on what to pursue after graduation. The seminar bridged the gap between theory and real-world practice, which is beneficial as we get ready for the job market.

With the seminar, I gained more experience on Linux commands and server settings. The hands-on workshop during the afternoon session provided us the opportunity to implement what we have learned, particularly on configuring web and system servers depending on assigned IP addresses. Collaborating in a group environment also helped us gain more experience on communication, teamwork, and problem-solving, which are also equally essential in any career choice.

Overall, the seminar was a worthwhile and effective learning experience. It helped us better understand how system and web administration functions, and how we, as future engineers, can be integrated into the industry. The lecture and workshop format made the seminar more effective and memorable. It was a good reminder that after theory, learning through doing is the best preparation for our profession.

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March 6, 2025

Seminar & Fieldtrips

Reaction Paper on Seminar 2:

**“Boot, Break, Fix, Repeat: The Art of Mastering Computer Systems”**

The second seminar that we went to, which was *Boot, Break, Fix, Repeat: The Art of Mastering Computer Systems*, provided us with a better idea of how computer systems are installed, serviced, and fixed. Being a 4th-year Computer Engineering student, this subject really relates to what we are studying in our course. The activity began with the traditional opening program and introduction of the speaker, Mr. Julius Ray A. Balbarosa. From the start, the focus was clear equipping us with practical knowledge through the Computer System Servicing (CSS) NCII modules.

The speaker discussed four core areas: installing and configuring computer systems, setting up networks, setting up servers, and maintaining and repairing computer systems. Each part was explained clearly, and we got to see actual demonstrations for some topics. One of the best parts was learning how to set up networks, IP addresses, and routers. Although there were minor technical problems and some aspects such as server setup weren't done thoroughly, the presenter still gave us a good introduction and advice on how to tackle them.

This seminar made me understand how such technical skills have a direct relationship with actual careers. The CSS NCII certification mentioned by the speaker is within reach for many of us if we wish to be IT support or systems administrators. The experiential learning from the seminar provided us with a good foundation and taught us the importance of being knowledgeable as well as having the ability to adapt when it comes to system-related issues.

Individually, I realized that the seminar assisted me in enhancing the comprehension of the network configurations as well as how to troubleshoot them. Learning how to clean and maintain hardware as well as software components appropriately was also another gain. Learning how to setup the peer-to-peer and understand backup and security were also a novelty and precious knowledge to me. Observing the way, it all comes together within an effective system made it all more relevant and practical.

In summary, the seminar was not just educational but also inspirational. It reminded us that one cannot be an expert overnight and that it is all about the desire to learn and gain experience. As we proceed with our life as budding engineers, moments like these are stepping stones to equip us with the technical skills for the challenges that await us. This seminar certainly provided me with a better perspective of which way I can proceed after graduation.

Reaction Paper on Seminar 3:

**“The Digital Workforce: Thriving in the Industry as a Computer Engineer”**

Our third seminar, *The Digital Workforce: Thriving in the Industry as a Computer Engineer*, provided us with a useful glimpse of how we can equip ourselves for the world outside after graduation. Being a 4th-year Computer Engineering student, I found the topic very timely and pertinent. The activity made me think about our path since our first year and how near we are to being professionals. With guest speakers from DICT Quezon Province, the seminar was on becoming strong digitally and how to remain safe and smart in this new online generation.

The seminar began with the first speaker, Mr. Edd Fernan Gonzales, who gave us useful tips on making a remarkable portfolio and exposing us to useful tools such as Canva, ChatGPT, and Grammarly. These tools, which we can use and access so easily, can assist us in enhancing the way we represent ourselves online and in job applications. He also shared advice on how to use them effectively and cautioned about their limitations. I particularly liked the way he made the session participative by engaging students and hearing their career aspirations, making the presentation more realistic.

This seminar taught me that knowing technology is not sufficient, our presentation of the skills also matters. Mr. Gonzales reminded us that our portfolio is the key to distinguishing ourselves in the field. While Mr. Fidel Kyle Subeldia discussed cyber hygiene and reminded us about the need to secure our online identities. In our upcoming professions, we will probably deal with systems and sensitive information, and thus it is a skill worth having to know how to protect information and steer clear of cyber-attacks.

The afternoon workshop enhanced my knowledge about online security. We were taught to authenticate valid websites with VirusTotal, check whether a picture is photoshopped or not with reverse image search, and test the strength of a password with Password Monster. Completing these exercises in teams facilitated teamwork and problem-solving capabilities. It was even enjoyable and competitive, and so the learning became more enjoyable. Even the icebreakers and VR game contributed to the experience by making energy levels high and inviting student involvement.

In short, the seminar was informative and enjoyable. It prepared us not only technically but also professionally and mentally for the working world. It reminded me that we are now entering a larger world beyond college, and with the proper tools, attitude, and discipline, we can succeed in it. I'm grateful for such opportunities that make us grow and closer to our dreams as future engineers.

Reaction Paper on Seminar 4:

**“From Concept To Creation”**

Participating in the fifth seminar entitled *From Concept to Creation* was an enriching experience that enabled us to see more clearly how our in-classroom activities relate to actual uses in the real world. Being a 4th-year student of Computer Engineering, I was glad to see that the seminar tried to provide practical knowledge that would help us prepare for working in the industry. The practice-based activities made everything more enjoyable and made the theories we studied more applicable. It was also apparent that there was careful planning of the event—be it in the arrangement of the venue, the course of activities—something that enabled us to concentrate and engage well throughout the day.

The high point of the seminar was when Sir Earl Daniel D. Villanueva had a discussion and brought us face to face with Fusion 360 and 3D printing. He walked us through the components and operations of the software step by step, ensuring that even newbies would be able to keep up. We were taught how to create basic products such as keychains and other customized items. During the afternoon session, we were allowed to observe how our virtual models were being printed on a 3D printer. It was thrilling to see our designs materialize, and the speaker also taught us some tricks of the trade on maximizing prints and correcting small things.

This seminar can assist us in our future professional lives by providing us with a better idea of how design and prototyping are utilized in engineering disciplines. Since we are future engineers, knowing about tools such as Fusion 360 and 3D printing equipment can be a plus for us. These are skills that many technologies companies value, particularly in product design, manufacturing, and prototyping-related industries. Understanding how to build and present working models will also come in handy when we begin working on capstone projects or job interviews.

From the activities in the seminar, I found that my critical thinking and 3D modeling skills have been enhanced. I became more confident when working with software such as Fusion 360, and I also learned the significance of being detail-oriented when creating digital designs. Working with fellow classmates, communicating ideas, and problem-solving in the process of printing helped enhance my communication and teamwork skills as well. These are as vital as technical expertise while doing actual projects or in the workplace.

In general, the seminar was an eye-opener that made us realize how crucial practical learning is in engineering. It prompted us to look beyond textbooks and experiment with new tools that are utilized in the field. The event was informative but not just that, it was also enjoyable and entertaining. I'm thankful to the organizers and the speaker for making the seminar successful. This experience will definitely serve as a strong foundation as we move closer to our careers after graduation.

Reaction Paper on Seminar 5:

**“Behind the Screen: A Threats Analyst's Path to Malware Defense”**

The seminar of the fifth group entitled *Behind the Screen: A Threats Analyst's Path to Malware Defense* provided us with a better grasp of the profession of cybersecurity, which is rapidly growing in significance in the online world. Being a 4th-year Computer Engineering student, the subject was very relevant to me as it taught us about the dangers we encounter on the internet and how to counterattack them. The activity was well-organized and provided not only lectures but also live games and discussions that kept the attendees interested and learning throughout the event.

The presenters—Engr. Leidryn Saludez, Engr. Kurth Cajucum, and Engr. Gerald Mico Gabatan—each had their own set of expertise to share in the session. They introduced us to threat analysis tools like VMware, OllyDbg, IDA Pro, and x32dbg, and described malware types like viruses, Trojans, and ransomware. The most informative session for me was indeed that on naming and identifying malware. What made the seminar enjoyable was how the speakers used interactive activities such as quizzes and games to test our knowledge and keep the energy up.

This seminar can immensely benefit our professional future, particularly for those aspiring to work as IT security experts, system administrators, or network engineers. We not only got introduced to malware analysis and security tools basics but were also persuaded to pursue careers at Trend Micro Inc., which accepts fresh graduates. Gaining knowledge from cybersecurity professionals made career opportunities in the field of cybersecurity more accessible and real.

During the seminar, I learned more about how cyber threats work and how professionals identify and halt them. I also enhanced my problem-solving and teamwork skills during group activities such as the mini quiz bee and Capture the Flag (CTF) game. These exercises caused us to think critically under stress and implement what we had learned just minutes before. It also enhanced our collaboration skills, which are necessary in a live work environment.

In conclusion, the seminar was both informative and thrilling. It provided us with hands-on skills, familiarized us with actual tools that cybersecurity experts work with, and motivated us to explore new professions. I'm grateful to the speakers and organizers for making the subject matter friendly and interesting. As we look forward to graduation, moments like these are important in assisting us in determining where we want to be and how we can help in the technology sector.

Reaction Paper on Seminar 6:

**“Engineering Visionaries: Shaping One's Future Through Career Development”**

The seminar session of last group entitled *Engineering Visionaries: Shaping One's Future Through Career Development* was a highly insightful and timely event for us graduating students. It provided us an opportunity to step back and think seriously about the future after college. The lecturer, Dr. Eryl A. Garantuza, not only inspired us but also gave us valuable advice that could actually assist us in planning and preparing for our future careers. The organization of the event was such that it was simple to understand and remain interested, particularly with the addition of icebreakers and interactive segments.

The presentation by Dr. Eryl was based on key points concerning the construction of a career. He spoke about his own experience, from the struggles he encountered to how he was able to overcome these. He also talked about important subjects such as how to write a proper resume, how to prepare for job interviews, and how to build a career path that suits our strengths and aspirations. His language was down-to-earth and easy to understand, so the session did not feel like a lecture but more like a conversation. It was nice to hear actual experiences that helped us better understand what to expect in the working world. This seminar will surely benefit us as we get ready for our future careers. The tips on resume making and job interviews are what we can implement immediately, particularly with graduation near at hand. Learning from an actual industry practitioner reminded us that career growth is not only looking for a job, but also understanding ourselves, making goals, and preparing ourselves for change. Such events are useful in that they bridge the gap between campus life and the professional world.

The seminar activities, particularly the Q&A session and career reflection assignments, made me more confident with deciding what to do next. I also enhanced my communication and listening skills through the group activity and interactive sessions of the program. Witnessing peers participating in the discussion and sharing their thoughts made me understand that we are all in the same boat—nervous but eager for what lies ahead. It also prompted me to begin thinking more seriously about my career aspirations.

Overall, the seminar was a significant and useful experience for us Computer Engineering students. It reminded us that although technical knowledge is crucial, personal growth and preparation are also vital. I appreciate the organizers and Dr. Eryl for providing us with a seminar that was not only informative, but also very inspiring. As we approach graduation, this seminar will be our guide and inspiration to mold our future with confidence and direction.