Title: Ubuntu Access to Windows Shared Folder via SMB

Scenario: In this setup, I had a Windows Server 2022 machine acting as the file server with a shared folder named Assignments. The server was configured with Active Directory, and the share was accessible only to members of the Science group. My Ubuntu 24.04 client is domain-joined and I wanted it to access the shared folder.

Accessing Windows Shared Folder via GUI on Ubuntu:

1. Open File Manager

o On the Ubuntu client, I opened the Files app.

2. Connect to Server

- o Clicked on **Other Locations** at the bottom of the sidebar.
- o In the "Connect to Server" box, I typed:

```
smb://192.168.100.2/Assignments
```

3. Authenticate

- o When prompted, I selected "Registered User".
- o Entered:
 - Username: student1
 - Domain: physicstutors (or leave blank if not using domain-qualified usernames)
 - Password: [the domain password]
- o Clicked Connect and successfully accessed the shared folder.

Accessing Windows Shared Folder via Command Line (CLI):

1. Install smbclient if not already installed:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install smbclient
```

2. List available shares on the Windows server:

```
smbclient -L //192.168.100.2 -U student1
```

- You'll be prompted for the password.
- o This should list Assignments as one of the shared folders.
- 3. Access the shared folder interactively:

smbclient //192.168.100.2/Assignments -U student1

- o Once connected, you'll be in an interactive prompt similar to FTP.
- Use commands like 1s, cd, get, and put to interact with the share.
- 4. Example Downloading a file:

smb: \> get sample.docx

Result: Both the graphical and command-line methods were successful in allowing the Ubuntu client to access the Windows-shared folder secured with AD credentials.

Tip: You can also mount the share permanently on Ubuntu using the cifs-utils package and editing /etc/fstab, but that requires proper credential storage and is best for persistent use cases.