Month 3: May Mayhem

In this month, things really started to heat up, like seriously!! (laughing emoji). The ICT sessions started with a bang having a total of 3 sessions in May. In addition to that, we also got a taste of scholarship writing, something Dr. C is very passionate about, having experienced what it means to get scholarships to school abroad and also reviewing scholarship essays for KamiLimu alumni.   
However, progress became harder and harder, as exams were drawing near. The stress hit fever pitch as rejection after rejection emails flooded my inbox. So here we have KamiLimu, CATs and Exams and add projects if you wish, application rejections and a constant dread of the following day (Ouu Sharkeisha- add a box/div for the meme image)… So how did I manage?

May’s sessions: (have divs for the 6 slots with expandable and retractable sections for the notes)

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| Session | Pillar | Notes |
| ICT track 1a - brainstorm with peer mentors | ICT | In this session, we went through setting up the Linux environments (Kali or Parrot) to carry out over the wire bandit challenges and Windows PowerShell for under the wire challenges. |
| Academic Excellence Principles | Scholarship | Academic Excellence  Why care?  To enjoy a good education  Appreciate holistic excellence  Enhance learning outcomes at uni and KamiLimu  embrace lifelong learning  What's a good education?  A good education is one that:  - Actually happens  - Is not the same as schooling  - Prepares and empowers individuals for an active and productive life  - Supported by dedicated teachers  - Is holistic  - Makes you think outside the box  - Is powered by grit  - Challenges towards growth  Learning Practices  - Chunking  - Retrieval practice  - Focus and Diffuse mode  - Scaffolding  Excellence through feedback  - Makes you more likeable, easy to work with  - Strengthens your confidence (when you are able to take and appreciate good feed back)  How to GIVE feedback  1. Build relationship  2. Appreciate- share what the other person is doing right and what they should keep doing  3. Coach- offer specific advise on what can be improved  4. Evaluate- Let others know their talents/skills and improvement adds value to you or team  5. Affirm- Remind the other of the value to you or your team.  How to RECEIVE feedback  1. Build relationship  2. Appreciate- the time taken to give feedback  3. Revoice- Voice what's been identified as areas of improvement  4. Evaluate  5. Revisit and iterate- follow up with your reviewer  Academic Excellence for life  1. Better placed to receive scholarship and fellowship opportunities  2. Excellence in innovation can lead to funding opportunities  3. Embracing holistic learning means you can integrate your technical with human skills  4. You are better placed with good work ethic  5. There is good money to be earned BUT sometimes you have to think long-term toward six or seven figure salary.  6. You can thrive anywhere in the world. |
| Introduction to Version Control 3 - Intro to CLI, Version Control and Open source | ICT | Class History  1. Command Line Interface & Linux  2. Version Control and Git commands  3. GitHub and Contributing to open-source projects  How GitHub became the largest source code host  What existed before GitHub?  They used a central Git repository on a remote server.  Flow:  Set up the remote repository  Developers clone from the central repository  Make changes locally  Push and pull over SSH  Communication was being done via email, IRC, email patches  Why GitHub?  Collaborative tools and resource for code sharing  Git needed a graphic user interface  En masse source code sharing  Efficient communication and collaboration  It's free |
| General Interview Preparation 1 | Professional Development | GENERAL INTERVIEW PREP 1:  Why?  Nurture Employability  Grow responsible Innovation  Enhance Learning Outcomes  Interviewer Feedback  - They look at:  - Demeanor and presentation  - Clarity of video and audio  - Confidence based on how they answer questions  - Attitude  - Problem solving skills (especially in technical interviews)  - Generic/well-structured answers  Use the Present - Past - Future Structure to answer the "tell us about yourself" question.  1. Present - Who are you now. Start with your current role, area of expertise, or what you're doing professionally. Mention any outstanding achievements or focus area.  2. Past: What experience brought you here? Briefly highlight your background and relevant past roles or experiences. Share one or two skills/strengths developed along the way.  3. Future: Why are you excited about this role you are applying for. Share what you are looking for next and why this role aligns.  Example:  I’m currently a university student pursuing [your course, e.g. Computer Science] with a strong interest in tech-driven problem solving and personal growth. I’ve recently been exploring areas like [e.g. project management, UI/UX, or coding], and I enjoy applying what I learn through class projects and online challenges.”  “In the past, I’ve taken part in group projects and volunteer roles where I developed skills in collaboration, communication, and leadership—even when working under  pressure. These experiences have helped me realize how much I enjoy working on solutions that have real-world impact.”  “Joining KamiLimu is an exciting opportunity for me because I want to grow both professionally and personally—build confidence, connect with mentors, and refine the skills I’ll need to thrive in the tech space and beyond.  Before:  Research on the organization and/or the panel  Prepare your story (STAR method)  Practice common and behavioral questions.  During:  Speak clearly and confidently  Show your thought process  Taking Notes  Asking the panel questions- should show curiosity, should show your research on the program, role  After  Reflect  Ask for feedback |
| ICT Training 2- Networking Basics and Active Directory | ICT | (I didn’t have any notes from the session but you can refer to tryhackme.com and get some short notes from the Active Directory and Networking Essentials sessions) |
| ICT Training 3- Offensive vs Defensive Tools | ICT | Offensive vs Defensive Tools  Offensive- known as the "red team", they work to find bugs in technology (Governance)  Defensive- known as the "blue team", they work to protect against the bad guys (Forensics/Incident Response)  The world of cybersec Channels:  IoT, Quantam  API, Wireless  Web/Mobile, Hardware  Network, Enterprise  Blockchain, Cloud/AI/ML securities  How do you "break" channels?  How do you protect your assets from being broken?  Offensive  - Reconnaissance and Information Gathering: How do you know where you are and what is available for attack?  tools: nmap, wfuzz/gobuster/dig/ping  - Exploitation: Find and attack weaknesses identified within the asset  tools: burpsuite, hydra, metasploit, netexec  - Post exploitation: cover your tracks, hide or reporting for "white hat" hackers  tools: AMSI bypass      Defensive:  - Detection/Information gathering: finding the breach and assessing logs and data for how this was done  tools: SIEM, Wireshark, EDR tech, IDS/IDP  - Analysis and Containment: Understand the fill scope of the breach and isolate the system/app.  tools: Forensics, VirusTotal, ACL (block lists)  - Treatment, recovery and restoration: Locking down the malicious activity and removing it from systems  tools: backup and restore tooling    SIEM: is a series of processes through which data from computer event and activity logs is compiled, monitored, and analyzed  New concepts: how IoT devices are hacked, crowdstrike, jam experiment  Labs:  https://tryhackme.com/room/offensivesecurityintro (first in-class lab)  https://tryhackme.com/room/defensivesecurityintro (Second in-class lab)  https://tryhackme.com/room/breachingad (bonus in-class lab) |

Looking back at May, it’s safe to say it was the most stressful month so far in KamiLimu. The tag team of KamiLimu, applications and School was one to remember!! (laughing emoji).

But did it pay off in the end? It definitely did. I managed to ace the interview I had for an attachment application I did a day after our General Interview prep 1. I managed to complete all the class projects and assignments on time using the chunking and pomodoro techniques. I embraced the suck never complained when I got the stick instead of the carrot (if you know you know “wink emoji”). In the end, I am proud for finishing the month on a high!!  
  
Memorable quotes from May:

“I would rather you buy an analog watch than a Fitbit/digital watch”- Brenda

“Use the past-present-future structure when asked to talk about yourself” - Nyevu

“I installed a Kali Linux VM inside my Kai Linux OS” - Mitchelle

“It’s like people already came to class knowing what’s going to be taught” – Dr. C

“We had to write a whole program in 2 hours and run it. People were leaving after an hour!!” – Dr. C