# Week 6 Assignment – Adding Logging to

# Python Applications using ELK

**Henrik Olsen (0913075)**

SWDV-660 – Applied DevOps

Maryville University, 2019

Week 6 – Logging & Monitoring Applications

Here is a screenshot of my Kibana dashboard (the .jpg file is also on GitHub: <https://github.com/olsenh1/660week6-holsen1> ):

![A screenshot of a social media post

Description automatically generated]()

The dashboard contains 3 different visualizations of 3 different parameters. Besides a visualization of my logged data in the top left, below I have a visualization of the hosts (host parameter) that provide loggings to my ELK server (in Data Table format). Currently, this is only my home computer, so there is only 1 entry. On the top right I have a visualization of the levels (level parameter) of my logged data (in Vertical Bar format) and beneath that I have a visualization of successful operations (test\_boolean parameter) (in Horizontal Bar format). All visualizations are saved and included in the same dashboard, that is also saved.

1. How many hours do you estimate that you used in completing this assignment?

This week I spent somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 hours on the assignment.

1. What was the most straightforward part of any task for you?

The easiest and most straightforward part for me was the Python programming. I basically used one of the examples provided in the module and enhanced it with logging capabilities. I wanted to make sure I had some data to work with in Kibana, so I am logging quite a bit more than I would on a normal basis, but all in all it came together pretty hassle-free. I was fairly certain that the problems I had was not directly related to my Python code, which also turned out to be true.

1. Describe the most frustrating technical challenge you encountered, and how you overcame it.

The most frustrating technical challenge was definitely the configuration of the ELK server. I overcame it with A LOT of trial and error. It turns out that I pretty much got everything set up right the first time, but I had serious issues getting my Python to send logs to the ELK stack. I ended up uninstalling Python 2.x and then installing Python 2.7.15 from scratch and everything started working. I did not find Kibana intuitive at all either and it took me a long time to get my dashboard set up. Again, a lot of trial and error.

1. What one part, of the technologies used in this task, would you like to learn more about?

I noticed somewhere – may have been one of your posts – that you were talking about possibly doing a class or at least parts of a class on Linux/Unix. I think that may be a good idea. I am not really a fan of Linux/Unix myself, it is not very intuitive either, but I grew up with DOS and later Windows, so it seems a lot more natural to me. There is a lot of Linux/Unix systems out there though and I think some practical knowledge about it may be a good idea.

1. If you could have one magic piece of documentation that would make this assignment easier, what would it tell you how to do?

Short of creating a new ELK server with a better setup, I think I would have been better off knowing a little more about the CURL setup before running it and “locking it down”. It is especially the “keywords” I am referring to. I don’t feel I knew enough about the indexes when I set them up. Generally, there seemed to be a LOT of configuration to do for ELK and some of it definitely didn’t make much sense. Some magic documentation would probably have helped.