Salaam,

This is a reminder that we will meet today starting at 9:00. I was informed yesterday that many of you have teaching responsibilities that begin at 11:00. Today the official part of the class will be from 9:00 to 11:00. I will remain in the lab until at least 12:00 and anyone who wants to stay and work is very welcomed to do so. In the future we will meet from 8:00 to 11:00, 2 or 3 days per week. I want the lab to be available for you work on own at other hours during the week. I am always available by email for help or to arrange to meet with you.

An important topic for today is setting the class meeting schedule as well as the times the lab will be available for you to use.

I mentioned the audience response system yesterday. These are known as iClickers (<https://www1.iclicker.com/>). We will use the classical one not the SMART device version. Today I will try to introduce the system but it will not be integrated into the class. I did not have sufficient time to adequately prepare for using them. I hope to be able to show you the features and explain how it can be useful for your own teaching. They are available for you to use.

Today will start the class with a discuss/overview. I stated yesterday that this would be about 1 hour. I think we need to be flexible and either extend or shorten my presentation/introduction depending on your interest, understanding, questions or other discussions. Think of today as a first class where we meet each other, talk about the class, get an introduction to concepts, etc. I believe we now how additional students. The remaining part of the class will most likely not be step 2, network installation. It will be the job of the first group of students to transfer the information about step 1. Remember, I believe that teaching in important.

The network installation will be done with software know as Cobbler. We will not start this until next week. I thought I had started documentation for the class but I really simply took notes for myself; a kind of command cheat sheet. I will attach that to this email It is not installation instructions!!! A relatively good online introduction/tutorial can be found at:

<https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/library/l-cobbler/>

The official Cobbler web site is (not recommended reading at this point):

<https://cobbler.github.io/>

We will use Puppet for configuration management. The Puppet home page is (not recommended reading at this point):

<https://puppet.com/>

We will use the open source version. From the home page above Under Products are links to comparisons between Puppet and other configuration management system.

I have been asked for introductory Linux and Linux system administration materials. I am still putting this together for you. Possible reading for information about cluster computing:

<https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/aix/tutorials/clustering/clustering.html>

That is all for now.

Wishing you all the best,

doug