Introduction

CSE/ISE 311
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My Class Goals

• Build intuitions about how computers work
• Apply these intuitions to troubleshoot new problems
• Learn best practices for care and feeding of systems
• Be conversant in commonly used technologies

Why take this class?

• Learn a practical skill
  – Easier to learn from someone else than self-teach
• Make $$ (or save it)
• Puts theory in context
• If lucky, you can even get inspiration for research

Course Structure

• Lectures – the font of all truth 😊
• Readings – in case I forget any important truth
  – Not optional
• Assignments – hands on tasks, alone or with a partner
  – Better with a partner
• 2 Exams – Probably on paper.
  – Maybe I’ll give you a system to debug instead.
  – Special offer: Submit your own exam questions!

Projects

1) Design your own computer
2) Install an OS and configure network
3) Set up a wiki server and other security tasks
4) Something big

Integrity

• Your work should be your own.
• Let’s discuss this exhaustive handout
Challenge Problems
• Some labs include challenge problems, which you may complete for bonus points (generally 5—10 points out of 100)
  – Unwise to turn in a lab late to do challenge problems
  – Can complete challenge problems at any point in the semester—even on old labs
• Indicate any challenge problems completed in challenge.txt file

Lateness
• Each group gets 72 late hours
  – List how many you use in slack.txt
  – Each day after these are gone costs a full letter grade on the assignment
• It is your responsibility to use these to manage:
  – Holidays, weddings, research deadlines, conference travel, Buffy marathons, release of the next Zelda game, etc.
• 3 Exceptions: illness (need doctor’s note), death in immediate family, accommodation for disability

Getting help
• TA’s (TBD) will keep office hours
• Instructor keeps office hours
  – Note that “by appointment” means more time available on demand

Space in the class
• Class is currently full
• Students often over-enroll
  – Space likely to open up in first week
  – If you want in, keep showing up for a few lectures

Lab 1 posted
• Due midnight Feb 14
• See course website for posted assignments as the semester progresses

Other administrative notes
• Read syllabus completely
• Every student will get a VM for labs 2+
  – You may use your own computer, staff can’t support it
• All staff email goes to cse311ta@cs.stonybrook.edu
  – Except private issues for instructor only
Questions?