

# CNT 4603 – System Administration and Maintenance

## Fall 2012 – Syllabus

**Course Prerequisites:** CGS 3763

**Class Meets:** Monday, Wednesday, and Fri from 3:30 – 4:20 pm in HEC 118

**Instructor:** Dr. Mark Llewellyn

**Office:** HEC 236

**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday 12:00 – 3:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday 2:00 – 4:00 pm

**Phone:** 407-823-2790 (voice mail available)

**E-mail:** [markl@cs.ucf.edu](mailto:markl@cs.ucf.edu)

**Course Web Site:** [www.cs.ucf.edu/courses/cnt4603/fall2012](http://www.cs.ucf.edu/courses/cnt4603/fall2012)

### Course Objective:

This course is designed to give you practical experience in system administration. We will cover a number of different topics and issues that face system administrators in their daily activities.

**Texts:** The following text will be used a bit later in this course:

*Programming in Python 3: A Complete Introduction to the Python Language, 2e*, Mark Summerfield, 2010, Pearson Education, ISBN-13: 978-0-321-68056-3.

The textbook will be supplemented with online lecture notes that I'll prepare which will come from a variety of resources. Any software that is required for the course will be available for downloading via the Internet.

### Grading:

This will be a project-based course and the course grade will be determined by your performance on the various projects that will be assigned throughout the semester. Anticipate between 8-12 projects covering the various topics we will discuss during the lectures. Some of the projects will be smaller and simpler in nature than others and as such the length of time devoted to each project will vary somewhat. Each project will include a detailed description of what you need to accomplish as well as the due date for the project. You will submit your projects via WebCourses. Projects will not be equally weighted towards the final grade, the simpler/smaller/easier projects will not count as heavily toward the final grade as will the more complex/larger/difficult/time-consuming projects. For any project regardless of its size or complexity, be sure to submit your work whether it is totally complete or not. Even 25 points out of 100 points is better than 0 points out of 100 points!

Projects are individual projects, which means that the work you submit must be your own. However, I encourage you to discuss the projects with your classmates and to ask for and provide assistance to each other, just be sure that the work you submit is your work and not that of a classmate (or anyone else for that matter).

The projects will give you experience in dealing with a number of different issues that arise in the world of system administration. Taken as a whole they will provide you with a valuable learning experience in a “real-world” setting.

EXAMS: Depending on the performance of the class as a whole on the early projects there may be a mid-term exam. Depending on the performance of the class as a whole on later projects there may be a final exam. If either or both of these exams occur, they will each count as a project. We will discuss this policy in class in more detail.

Final Exam Period (**Friday December 7<sup>th</sup>: 1:00 – 3:50 pm**)

Grading Scale:

Plus/minus grading will be used in this course.

90-100 = A, 88-90 = A-, 86-88 = B+, 80-86 = B, 78-80 = B-, 76-78 = C+,  
70-76 = C, 68-70 = C-, 66-68 = D+, 60-66 = D, 58-60 = D-, <58 = F

### **Some Important Dates:**

No class: **Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Labor Day**

**Monday November 12<sup>th</sup> – Veteran’s Day**

**Thursday-Friday November 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – Thanksgiving Holiday**

Last Day to Withdraw: **Monday October 29<sup>th</sup>**

Final Exam: **Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm till 3:50 pm**

### **Topics To Be Covered:**

1. Virtualization
2. User Accounting
3. Remote Access Services
4. Security
5. Maintenance
6. Scripting – Python and Ruby
7. Monitoring
8. Upgrading and patching

This is a general list of topics only and is subject to the needs of the class. It will be altered without notice, but will generally follow the same progression. At the end of each class I will tell you what we will be discussing during the next class period.

### **Lab Times:**

There are no regularly scheduled labs for this course. Once we get things rolling and projects assigned we will use most Friday class times for lab sessions/help sessions. The TA for the course (see below) will be available during the class time in the classroom to help you with any issues you might be having related to the course projects.

### **TA Information:**

The TA for the course is TBA. The TA will be available on ??? as well as accessible via WebCourses.