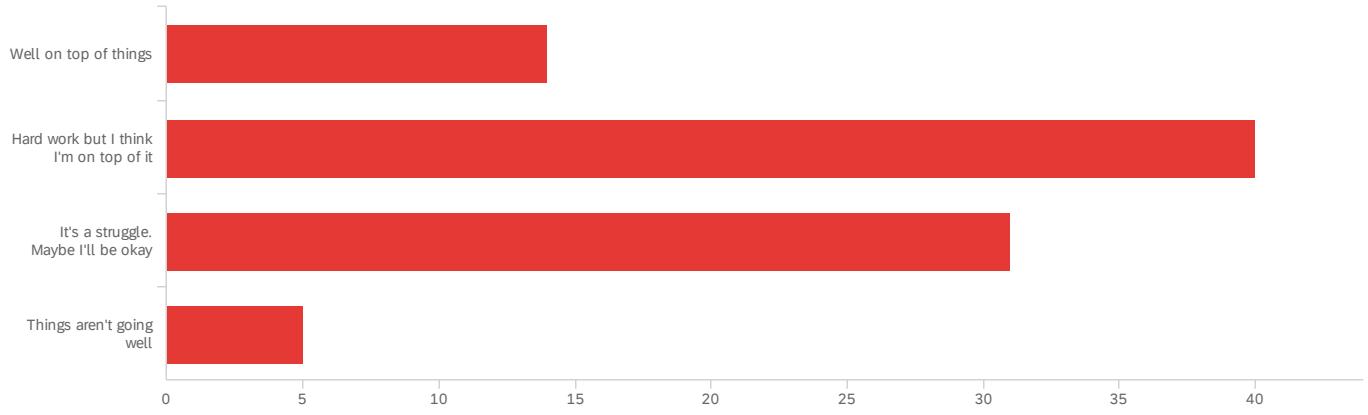
OSTS_Midsemester_Survey

OSTS (CITS2003/CITS4407) mid semester survey - 2023

May 14, 2023 7:10 PM MDT

Q1 - How do you feel you are tracking in OSTS

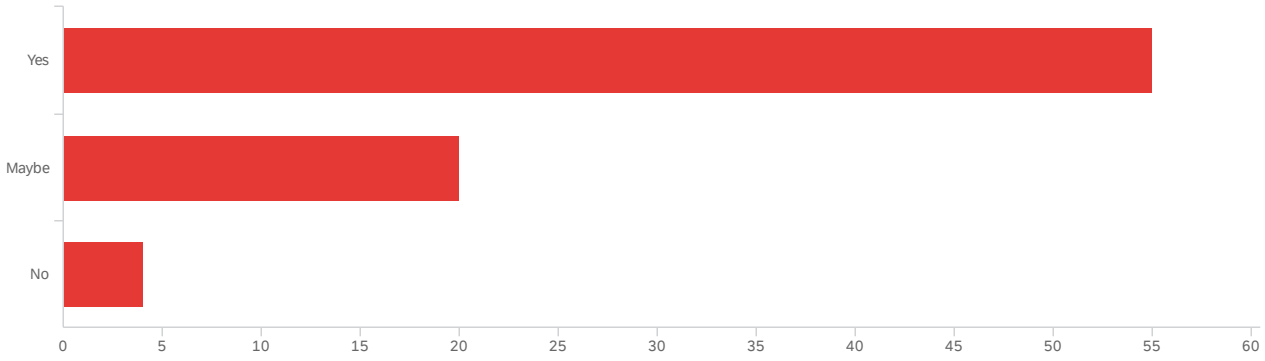


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How do you feel you are tracking in OSTS	1.00	4.00	2.30	0.80	0.63	90

#	Field		Choice Count
1	Well on top of things	15.56%	14
2	Hard work but I think I'm on top of it	44.44%	40
3	It's a struggle. Maybe I'll be okay	34.44%	31
4	Things aren't going well	5.56%	5
			90

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Q2 - Thinking about Assignment 1, and what you have seen of Assignment 2. The idea behind the assignments - unlike the lab exercises - is that they are a little harder than the labs, and this is where you put together what you have learnt. Are those design goals reasonable?

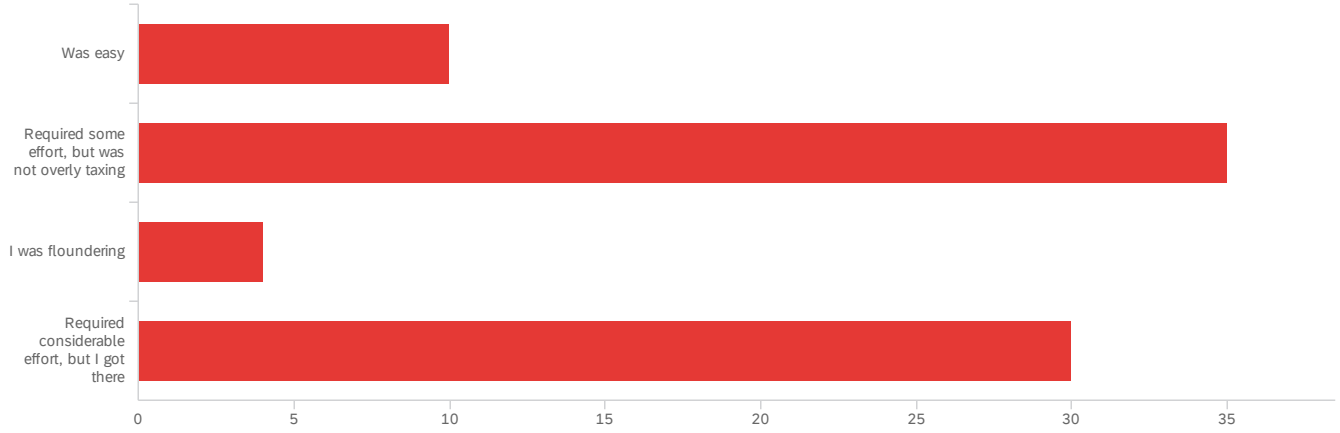


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Thinking about Assignment 1, and what you have seen of Assignment 2. The idea behind the assignments - unlike the lab exercises - is that they are a little harder than the labs, and this is where you put together what you have learnt. Are those design goals reasonable?	1.00	3.00	1.35	0.57	0.33	79

#	Field		Choice Count
1	Yes	69.62%	55
2	Maybe	25.32%	20
3	No	5.06%	4
			79

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

Q3 - Project 1

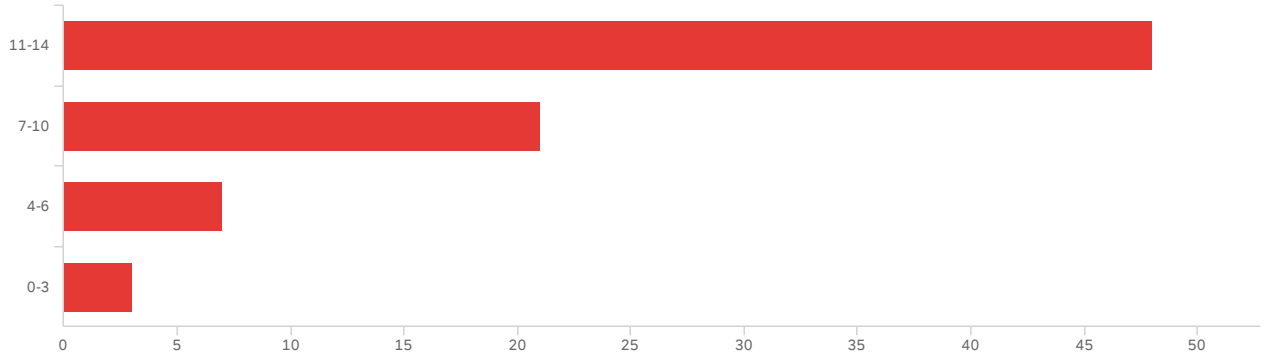


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Project 1	1.00	6.00	3.49	2.04	4.17	79

#	Field		Choice Count
1	Was easy	12.66%	10
2	Required some effort, but was not overly taxing	44.30%	35
4	I was floundering	5.06%	4
6	Required considerable effort, but I got there	37.97%	30
			79

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Q4 - There have been 14 lectures, up to 3 May. How many have you attended, or watched/listened to online? You can be honest as I have no way of mapping answers to respondents)

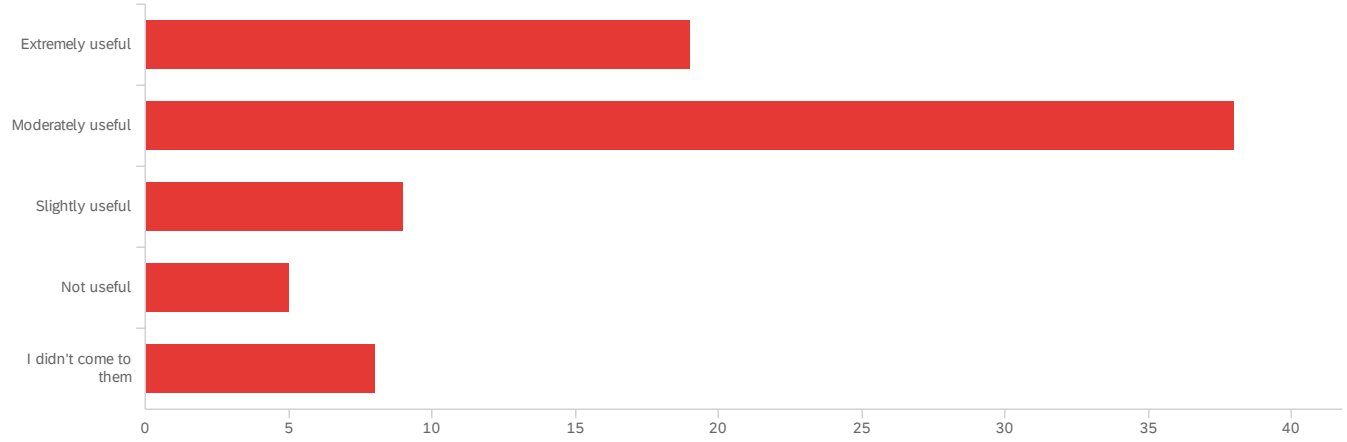


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	There have been 14 lectures, up to 3 May. How many have you attended, or watched/listened to online? You can be honest as I have no way of mapping answers to respondents)	1.00	4.00	1.56	0.81	0.65	79

#	Field		Choice Count
1	11-14	60.76%	48
2	7-10	26.58%	21
3	4-6	8.86%	7
4	0-3	3.80%	3
			79

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Q9 - Have the labs been useful?

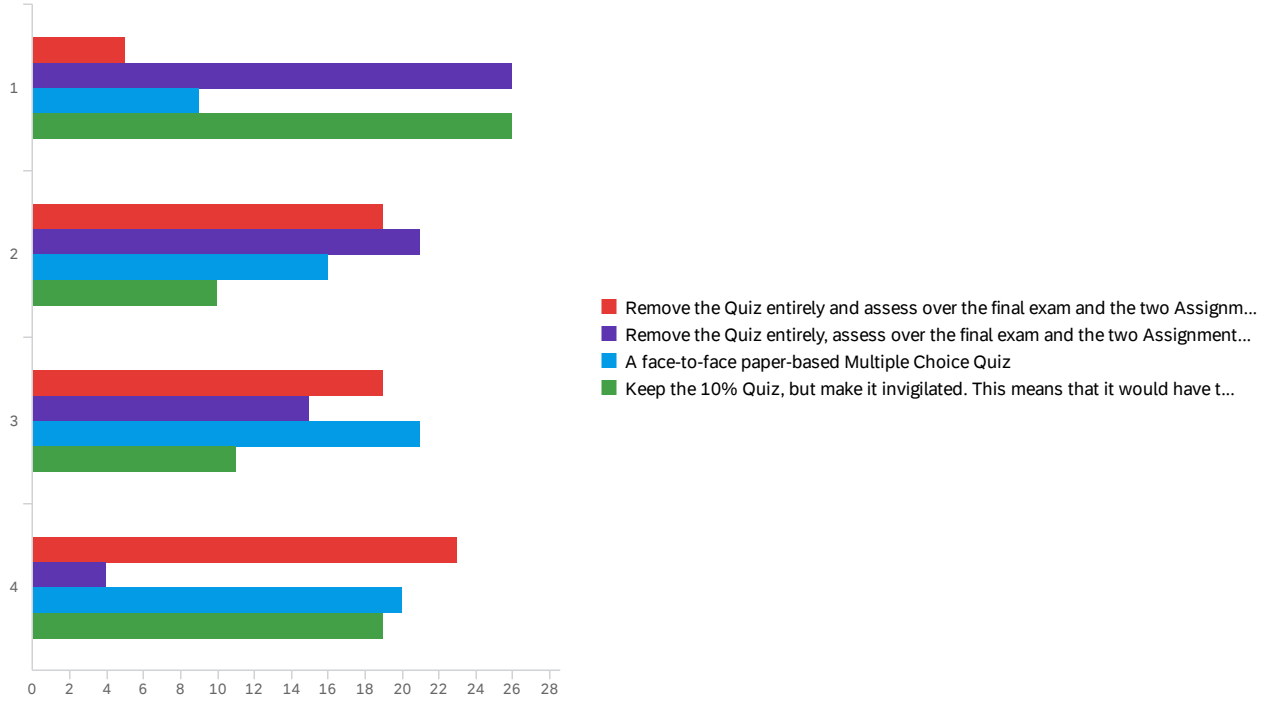


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Have the labs been useful?	1.00	5.00	2.30	1.19	1.43	79

#	Field		Choice Count
1	Extremely useful	24.05%	19
2	Moderately useful	48.10%	38
3	Slightly useful	11.39%	9
4	Not useful	6.33%	5
5	I didn't come to them	10.13%	8
			79

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

Q11 - The online quiz clearly faced a number of problems. I'm contemplating changes to that assessment item. Please rate the following ideas, starting from 1 (most favourable in your view) down to 4, by sliding the options. Assume that the Quiz, if it continues, will be 1hour.



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Remove the Quiz entirely and assess over the final exam and the two Assignments	1.00	4.00	2.91	0.96	0.93	66
2	Remove the Quiz entirely, assess over the final exam and the two Assignments, but leave the Quiz as an optional activity which will take place over a day, and be assessed, but which will not contribute to the final grade. This implies that you think you'd do the now-optional Quiz	1.00	4.00	1.95	0.93	0.86	66
3	A face-to-face paper-based Multiple Choice Quiz	1.00	4.00	2.79	1.02	1.05	66
4	Keep the 10% Quiz, but make it invigilated. This means that it would have to happen at the same time for everyone, typically a lecture slot.	1.00	4.00	2.35	1.26	1.59	66

#	Field	1		2		3		4		Total
1	Remove the Quiz entirely and assess over the final exam and the two Assignments	7.58%	5	28.79%	19	28.79%	19	34.85%	23	66
2	Remove the Quiz entirely, assess over the final exam and the two Assignments, but leave the Quiz as an optional activity which will take place over a day, and be assessed, but which will not contribute to the final grade. This implies that you think you'd do the now-optional Quiz	39.39%	26	31.82%	21	22.73%	15	6.06%	4	66
3	A face-to-face paper-based Multiple Choice Quiz	13.64%	9	24.24%	16	31.82%	21	30.30%	20	66
4	Keep the 10% Quiz, but make it invigilated. This means that it would have to happen at the same time for everyone, typically a lecture slot.	39.39%	26	15.15%	10	16.67%	11	28.79%	19	66

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

Q10 - What have you found to be good/useful about the unit?

What have you found to be good/useful about the unit?
A better understanding of the purpose of docker containers and learning a more common coding language.
helps me greatly in understanding bash scripting more deeply
good to learn bash
building up scripting skills building from cits1003
Im a software engineer regularly using bash This unit has been great for reviewing my fundamentals and giving me a much deeper understanding. It has been very easy for me, but still very useful. In particular I am learning a lot about awk which I didn't really use before.
Lots of demos which makes it easier to see the various commands put into practice!
know the basic laanguage about bash
Lectures are reasonably engaging - not just reading from slides, and content frequently relates to real-life use cases Lab facilitators are great Inclusion of git is fantastic - frustrating that it's not shown in level 1 units
Thanks, Professor. It is super helpful for me!!
Found that in some cases open shell script is easier to implement that use python code for the same case
Interesting content
Made me think better.
/
I've found it to be very useful in refining my knowledge surrounding scripting and my general Linux use.
The course in itself is really interesting and sparks up the idea of experimenting and learning more while implementing, rather than just reading and absorbing alot of information
Learning bash scripting and how to use the terminal
HI professor ,I think this unit provides a deeper understanding of operating systems and their underlying mechanisms for us especially me firstly get in touch to IT ,but sometimes some of the knowledge is hard to understand which may took me a lot of time and do more research ,still I think its ok.
This is a pretty well paced unit, I appreciate it is difficult while also being achievable each week, unlike many other units that seem to think you can learn an entire language every darn week (that unit shall go un-named). I've also found it pretty handy and used some of the tricks outside of this unit, at the very least I recognize shell commands I'm using in other projects & units and that familiarity is empowering. This is one of the better units I've done at UWA for sure.
git in order to save projects and other stuff like that

What have you found to be good/useful about the unit?

lectures are quite good at explaining commands and how they can be used

The shell language is useful which I have not touched before.

l learnt how to use bash computer language

I know how to use the terminal and this is very exciting.

It is good/useful that the course teaches bash. Due to the extent of the subject matter the reference book is good.

It has taught me the shell scripting from scratch

Let me understand and be able to use certain Linux systems.

Lectures are organised and contained well

At first, I have no idea how bash works. Now I found bash could help on doing some automation tests and doing something helpful like on Kubernetes.

I actually feel like i get taught in this unit/ fair assessments so far

The fundamentals of bash and the usefulness of various commands to make life easier

I had personal interest in switching to Linux from Windows and learn scripting. So personally for me, this is the most interesting unit for this semester for me. I feel more empowered when I can run a script successfully. Thank you, Michael :)

Learning new skills

New learning - no previous experience on shell scripting

Learning how to navigate directories and create simple scripts in shells for personal projects.

This unit is a bit harder especially for those without programming basics and requires a lot of self study to catch up. But at the same time, it also serve as a basics for other programming subjects. Nonetheless, it is an interesting subject and it helps to know what is going on inside your computer.

I am entirely new to this field. I found it hard to study at the very beginning. But, lab and assignment made me more understandable than before.

The 45 - 60 min lectures. I am doing a finance degree as well, and having to do multiple 2 hour lectures just becomes inefficient. Osts has been terrific how Michael gets his point across in a far shorter time, which makes it super good to be able to concentrate fully for a shorter amount of time.

Gives a good overview of the Linux/Unix system for first-time users. It translated into other units, such as cybersecurity, helping me understand the processes and commands more.

All of them are very useful, just needing to take some effort to learn.

the ability to write base script and use some of the common commands

the unit is quiet useful. helps a lot in daily work

What have you found to be good/useful about the unit?

Demos in class, starter packs, lab solutions

Learning the fundamentals of scripting

Professor Wise was very kind and explained the basic knowledge of open source in a way that allowed me to understand. However, after completing the class foundational knowledge, I found that the assignments were much more challenging than the examples given in class. As my undergraduate major was not in a computer-related field and I did not have any prior coursework in computer science. Additionally, all of the 4 units assignments in semester 1 were typically released at the same time, requiring me to complete units courses assignments within two weeks. Each unit's assignments were difficult, causing me to work from 8 am to 2-3 am every day for over two weeks. My health has started to suffer, and I'm feeling uncomfortable.

The lecture contains demo sessions which helps us to understand how the programming should be done.

His teaching, breaking it down to simpler steps

the assignment was not too much harder than the labs and lectures, and the lectures are relevant to the assignment

Having a sound knowledge on shell scripting is really important in my opinion. I am enjoying the topics covered in the unit.

It covers Docker and GitHub. And learning bash is simply fun!!!

I like how professor said something about “In the good old days” when bash was just invented or computer science was a new thing.

I use chatpgt to help me understand all the lecture slides. It helps a lot. Also this unit contributes my assignment to CITS1003 as well.

Help OSTS. It keeps the emails to minimum. It can have huge impact in case of quiz problem or similar issues. Labs and lab tutors are extremely helpful (wish there were available after hours too). Fair assignment with clear instruction(more instructions could be useful).

Q7 - Are there things that can be improved, and if so, what?

Are there things that can be improved, and if so, what?
A test software for assignments that can highlight if some hidden tests do not reveal results similar to the moodle component in Python coding.
I don't have any suggestions that I can think of right away
do more demo in lectures when explaining theories
maybe make the labs worth overall % for the grade so students will be inclined to do them. (I did none of them)
The lectures are quite slow which make them feel boring. They're not useless but I feel they're not super engaging. I do understand teaching this sort of stuff isn't super exciting and there may not be very good ways to make it feel very 'interesting' but I find myself just zoning out, just being honest. I feel there could be more covered in the lectures, 14ish super basic slides per lecture makes it feel like each one is dragged out since you can learn in 1 minute how to use a lot of the functions brought up in the lectures.
I would hope that assignments would include extension/extra tasks for high-achievers. I feel they are a bit limited in scope, especially for PG separate assignments for UG and PG make labs have a weighted component to them?
NIL
provide more examples related to commands
Some of the live demos in lectures require debugging, or just generally run out of time; possibly walking through the code of a pre-made demo could be more valuable? Clarifications made on the help forum should be appended to the project spec page - I don't find it helpful when a question is frequently asked, and the only response is telling people to trawl through dozens of horribly documented and formatted forum posts (not entirely a gripe of this unit, more so the help forum in general)
non
one command one example please
Too much ambiguity on assignment questions, mostly regarding what errors will be tested, as well as what the question is asking in assignment 2. Also too much crucial information shared on HelpOSTs, should be highlighted to all students when something relating to assignment is discussed.
Graded labs
/
The only thing that could be improved in my opinion is the functionality of the online system. Whilst the content has been fantastic not being able to access the quiz and having assessment 2's upload delayed was a major cause of stress for me.
The content can be upgraded, the slides can contain more information as right now it just has brief information about the things and we are expected to look for other resources.
im not sure, i'm doing just fine as is, but others might find it to be difficult, they would have a better suggestion
When I am trying to write some code , the error can't be shown immediately until I finally run it ,not like in a Thonny , and I think more code examples or tests without scoring will be so much better for us to have a better understanding. Thank you so much Professor and always have a good day.

Are there things that can be improved, and if so, what?

the pacing is too fast, need more example for commands

Can you please get the marks back to us for Assignment #1? That's all, cheers :-)

organisation and putting lectures up when needed

while i could understand the commands and how they worked, it took me a little longer just to understand the basic syntax of bash scripting such as how the square brackets worked etc.

None so far.

yes, there are.The content can be more detailed

more labs

the lab answers can be discussed in detail during the lecture hours

The content in the lab can be explained appropriately.

Assignment requirements (no ambiguous requirements)

More useful and down to earth examples on the lecture notes. I and my friends always found it is hard to follow even there are demo sessions. It is hard to catch and look back to each video to search for what we want when doing assignments and revision.

I feel that when learnin an entirely new topic/command, the examples tend to be a bit complicated for first time. It might just be me, but I guess spend a bit more time explaining and using very simple examples then move on to more complicated ones

I can't find many except one - sometimes while watching the lectures online from my home, I have to Google to know the details of some commands which are not covered in the lectures. I think, while going through the demos, more details would help the students. Especially solving a problem step by step rather than writing the whole solution and then explaining would have been a better approach to me.

Not using the csse website and using LMS instead. Having a working mid-sem test.

describing the flow of output and functions that receive their input should be impressed more thoroughly on students. spend more time on how piping works to produce a desired output.

Leave 1 or 2 weeks to teach the basics of programming before heading into the topic. It all seems like a rush through the weeks. If not, then this unit should only be open to those who have a basics / have taken other basic units in their course.

It's fine now

When doing the demo, the screen can be too small and potentially more visual representation and code breakdowns could help with understanding more complicated codes. Otherwise, the lectures and labs are very useful.

At the beginning of this course, the learning gradient was very steep.

give out a cheat sheet for bash script syntax and all of the commonly used commands with their flags included.

I would be helpful if we had more labs for practice and they were graded.

Are there things that can be improved, and if so, what?

everything is great

Provision of Assignment 1 feedback before the start of Assignment 2, so improvements can be incorporated; Maybe labs can take the form of CITS1401 labs where there's instant feedback

Everything is on dot.

It would be helpful to have a queue system for lab sessions similar to the cybersecurity lab, which would establish a clear order for receiving assistance and enable TA to quickly locate those who need help. The assignment instructions could be more precise, as I am concerned that incomplete understanding might result in score deductions. As an international student who has not taken specialized course exams in an entirely English-speaking environment, I am unsure of the scoring criteria for exams. In previous quiz, I lost scores due to this issue. If possible, it would be beneficial if the Professor could provide some examples of how to answer questions in a manner consistent with the grading rubric.

The lectures should contain more content, and git and Makefile should be taught in more detail.

the labs are not useful to go to, I don't want to do a handwritten coding exam

In my opinion, the way the topics are taught in class has made it challenging for most students, including myself, to comprehend. As a result, I have stopped attending the class and opted to educate myself through resources such as ChatGPT and YouTube, focusing on the topics that were taught in class.

I wanted to start using GitHub in the earlier stage. And I think Docker and GitHub requires at least 2 lectures for each topic to cover everything.

Sometimes I feel struggling when caught up with the demo in class.

I think all the concepts should be told in details and also be presented.

Less mark on second sem exam. Honestly 50% not cool. 30% yes very nice. Cause it cause less stress and make people more prone toward projects and assignments. Lectures are sort of unclear. Like there are lot more content needs to be covered and explained as there are not. Like for anti-bugging or so...

Being there when we were having issues with the quiz. People were in the lecture theater and the lecturer wasn't, didn't reply until well after the quiz time slot and didn't work out what had happened until after the class had.

Q8 - Which resources - books, web sites, apps - that you have found useful in helping you understand how to program in Bash and Unix tools?

Which resources - books, web sites, apps - that you have found useful in h...
Stack overflow and a few other coding forums are great for finding tips and fixes. ChatGPT is also great for some further clarification on the lab questions and some of the theory.
man command
youtube chatgpt the command line
ChatGPT and Youtube
General google searches, old online forums posts
the unit resources/labs stackoverflow linux man pages trail and error
The manuals and simple online demo's utilising the commands that i am interested in
youtube
mostly just the manuals for the tools, or online (StackOverflow/ChatGPT)
web sites
youtube
Labs and lecture slides
/
I have found all resources listed in the resource tab to be extremely helpful.
The book, The linux command line has been very helpful
youtube and chatgpt. the labs facilitators are also very helpful.
Actually I used a lot of tools to have a better understanding of it especially a website called bilibili , a stage where all the Chinese can put interesting videos on it ,including a lot of free courses
The lecture's are actually really well paced, complemented with the work provided for the workshops. Although I didn't attend in person I've done them all. Any extra info I've needed the man command has pretty much nailed it. I don't think I've had to, but I could Google or ChatGPT if I needed to. I don't think more is needed, it's nice to put 4-8hrs in to a unit and have the work done for the week.
need more resources such as moodle and assessed bash coding labs online would be really good

Which resources - books, web sites, apps - that you have found useful in h...

regular coding websites like geeks4geeks, stackexchange and chatgpt is very useful for helping to understand what commands do and how to use them

Other people's blogs and chatgpt.

https://leetcode.com/

chatgpt

Chatgpt

book: "The Linux Command Line"

chatgpt

William E. Shotts Jr, "The Linux Command Line: A Complete Introduction", 2nd edition

Web sites.

stack overflow

stack overflow ofc

Nothing special. I usually ask ChatGPT and google when I found something struggling. And also asks my friend who is working in Google Australia.

Chat GPT in explaining how a certain command works as it saves so much time searching through various websites to find the exact command with the options you are looking for and how its working

To be honest, I feel there is just not enough time to read four-five books in a semester. When face a problem, I just google and learn it from the first page of Google. Nowadays, ChatGPT is also very very helpful in explaining a topic. It's accurate 90% of times and the most unique thing is, I can ask follow up questions. I also follow YouTube, especially Derek Taylor (DT) is my favourite You tuber.

Google

google

YouTube

Since I am new to this field, I am using Youtube to study Bash and Unix tools.

I find I will always go back over lecture notes and lab solutions before looking else where. However, there are a range of websites out there that can help you understand a particular topic.

I've been using tutorialspoint.com (an online webpage) that has examples and explanations, and youtube has also been used for things like regular expressions

Mostly google

"man" command, google, bing

Which resources - books, web sites, apps - that you have found useful in h...

the book The Linux Command Line is very useful

GeeksforGeeks site

I learned it from the lectures and labs

youtube

https://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/shell_scripting.htm https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/introduction-linux-shell-shell-scripting/ Stackoverflow

Powerpoint slides

Hack the Box and JetBrains

ChatGPT, YouTube, GeeksforGeeks

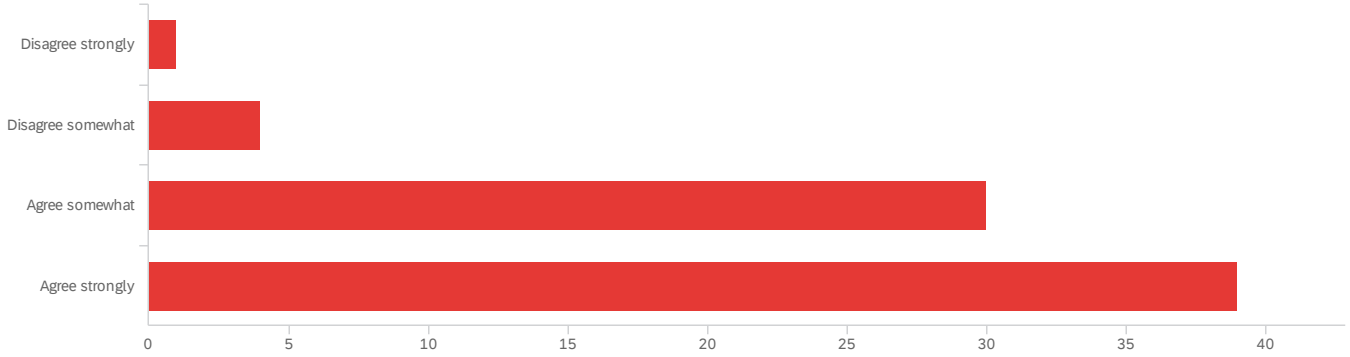
I used some Coursera courses to support my study.

Stack flows.

Chatgpt, and of course related YouTube videos

Youtube. Honestly just youtube and ChatGpt.

Q9 - Overall, CITS2003/CITS4407 has been a worthwhile experience



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Overall, CITS2003/CITS4407 has been a worthwhile experience	1.00	4.00	3.45	0.66	0.44	74

#	Field		Choice Count
1	Disagree strongly	1.35%	1
2	Disagree somewhat	5.41%	4
3	Agree somewhat	40.54%	30
4	Agree strongly	52.70%	39
			74

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

End of Report