

ISQS 3351 - Linux Server Security

Syllabus - Spring 2015

Instructor: **John R Durrett**

Office Hours: TR 12:20-2:00:
or anytime by phone or email

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I. **Prerequisites:** ISQS 3349

II. **Supplies:**

- **Required Textbook:** This depends upon which distro you pick. For Fedora Core a reference book such as [A Practical Guide to Fedora and Red Hat Enterprise Linux](#) or [Linux Bible by Christopher Negus](#) and [Fedora Linux Toolbox: 1000+ Commands for Fedora, CentOS and Red Hat Power Users](#), or for Ubuntu [The the current version of one of these](#) and the Ubuntu version of [Linux Toolbox: 1000+ Commands](#) or other Linux reference(s) as approved by me.
- **Optional books that I use:** A great TCP/IP reference book: [TCP/IP 24seven \(ISBN:0782125093\)](#), [Building Secure Servers with Linux](#), [Linux Firewalls](#), [Linux Bible, 2008 Edition: Boot up to Ubuntu, Fedora, KNOPPIX, Debian, openSUSE, and 11 Other Distributions](#)

III. **Course Learning Objectives:**

This is a "hands on" course. The intent is to build practical experience in administering a Linux-based server in an insecure networking world. We will build on the conceptual telecommunications knowledge acquired in previous courses. The assumption is that students who enroll desire practical real-world networking experience and will work toward that end.

I also assume you are interested in learning. If not, please find another course.

IV. **Methodology:**

Class will be conducted on a minimal lecture, mostly discussion and participatory basis.

If you have enrolled in this class with the intention that I will "teach you," please find another class. My intention is to "help you

learn." The difference in these two philosophies is that the primary emphasis on learning is placed on you and not on me. I am unwilling to take responsibility for your success. I make every effort to present the material in a clear and concise manner, to be available to answer questions, and to understand your point of view. I make the assumption, which I understand is wrong in some cases, that you come to lectures with some understanding of the topic under discussion. In my opinion, it is impossible for you to learn much IT or IS from simply listening to me. You must prepare for class; this includes "playing," going beyond the minimal requirements.

V. **Academic Conduct:**

The Texas Tech policy for academic affairs applies to all students, at all times. Any student who violates the academic conduct policy will be subjected to the appropriate disciplinary sanctions (Student Affairs Handbook). In absence of evidence to the contrary, students will be treated as trustworthy, honest, and just.

VI. **Disabled Students:**

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor's office hours. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, you may contact the Student Disability Services office in 335 West Hall or 806-742-2405.

VII. **Attendance:**

I take attendance during class, sometimes. The purpose of this attendance role is to enable grade decisions at the end of the semester. If a student is "borderline" (in either direction) attendance is considered in raising or lowering the final grade. In addition, I periodically make changes to exam dates, homework due dates, homework assignments, extra credit assignments, exam bonuses, and other class structural issues. If a student misses one of these class announcements for any reason it is their responsibility to find out about the change. The instructor is **NOT** responsible for informing students individually.

VIII. **Assessment & Grading Policy:**

Reflecting the anticipated maturity and experience of the student body grades (and thus the quality of each student's acquisition of the above learning objectives) will be based primarily on class participation, projects, and papers. Grades will be assigned as follows:

Class projects	78%
Exams, Quizzes, etc	22%
Please note that grading in this class is very subjective. You MUST be willing to join in the knowledge/experience acquisition process. If you do not your grades will suffer everywhere.	

IX. **[Class Outline \(I intend to change it as your interests and time dictate.\)](#)**