

IT 428 System Administration

School of Technology & Computing

5 Credits, Undergraduate Course

Summer 2022

Grading Type: Decimal

Access to the Internet is required.

All written assignments must be in Microsoft-Word-compatible formats.

See the library's APA Style Guide tutorial for a list of resources that can help you use APA style.

Faculty Information

Professional experience information for instructors is found under *Faculty Information* in the online course menu.

Contact Information

Contact information for instructors is found under *Faculty Information* in the online course menu.

Email: [first name]

Phone: [xxx-xxx-xxxx]

Office Hours and Response Time: [I am available through MS Teams XXday and XXday nights between x-p.m.- x-p.m. I will respond within 24 hours. I will grade within 3 business days after the due date.]

Bio: (keep images under 300px wide)

Course Description

The course's primary goal is to give students principles, skills, and experience in administering systems. This course prepares the student to evaluate integration choices for middleware platforms, demonstrate how these choices affect testing and evaluation within the development of an IT system, and develop and monitor effective and appropriate system administration policies within a government environment. Programming practices to facilitate the management, integration and security of the systems that support an organization are included.

Course Resources

Required and recommended resources to complete coursework and assignments are found on the course [Reading List](#). Note: resources listed under "Required - Must Purchase" should be purchased from a vendor of the student's own choosing; resources listed under "Available from the Library" are available at no cost to students.

Course Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand basic concepts of system administration and security.
- Apply basic methodologies of System Administration including group policy controls and security.
- Analyze strategies for network backup, restoration operations, and incident handling in a digital network.
- Evaluate controls to protect digital networks from malware threats.

- Develop from the ground up a miniature corporate network.
- Create security policies and techniques to protect digital networks and applications from security vulnerabilities.

Additional Information

Added by the instructor.

Grading Scale

The grades earned for the course will be calculated using City University of Seattle’s decimal grading system, found in the current University Catalog (<https://www.cityu.edu/catalog/>).

Grading rubrics with details on how each assignment will be graded are located under *Assignments* and/or in *My Grades* in the online course menu. Students should review the rubric for each assignment prior to completing their work in order to understand how it will be assessed.

OVERVIEW OF REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS	% OF FINAL GRADE	POINTS
The Muddiest Point (MP)	5%	50 = 5 points * 10 modules
Concept Test (CT)	5%	50 = 5 points * 10 modules
Discussion Board (DB)	10%	100 = 10 points * 10 modules
Hands-On Practice (HOP)	20%	200 = 20 points * 10 modules
Virtual Lab (VL)	30%	300 = 30 points * 10 modules
Knowledge Check (KC)	10%	100 = 10 points * 10 modules
Team Project (TP)	20%	Proposal: 30 points Progress: 70 points Final Report: 70 points Final PPT: 30 points Subtotal: 200 points
TOTAL	100%	1,000 points

Course Assignments and Grading

The instructor will provide grading rubrics that will provide more detail as to how this assignment will be graded.

The Muddiest Point (MP)

Before class, students are required to submit the Muddiest Point (MP) activity. The purpose of this activity is to stimulate student engagement. The instructor uses the MP to assess how students understood the required readings. The instructor also uses the MP to customize the lecture scope to implement Just-in-Time Teaching (JiTT). The MP consists of

writing a brief reflective essay (≤ 50 words) identifying the most confusing part (i.e., the MP) of the content covered in the upcoming module. If a student understood all concepts, the student needs to explain the most exciting aspect. There is one multiple-choice question from the required reading to demonstrate that the student understood the required readings.

Criteria	% of Grade
Participation	40%
Writing	40%
Correctness	20%
TOTAL	100%

Concept Test (CT)

The instructor poses a problem based on key concepts of a lecture. After reflecting on the problem, students submit their response and the instructor review them without providing a correct answer. Students discuss their thought process and solution with a peer. Students then commit to an answer and re-submits their responses. Instructor reviews responses and thought processes with the correct answer.

Criteria	% of Grade
Engagement	100%
TOTAL	100%

Discussion Board (DB)

All classes are required to use the Discussion Board. Participation through DB is an integral part of this course. It is defined as active engagement in a discussion or other activity. Instructors will determine the type of activities and their due dates; moreover, different DB activities will have different substance and length guidelines. The instructor will provide specific instructions to students.

A student posts an answer to a weekly discussion topic in Discussion Board. The student also posts a response to two other students' posts by the end of each module. Comments and questions should be clear and thoughtful, with correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. The instructor will grade the quality of your discussion postings on both content and response.

Questions or comments specifically for the instructor should be emailed directly to the instructor or posted in the Question and Answer Forum. Students who want to talk with other students about issues unrelated to the discussion forums should use the Coffee Talk Forum.

Although the tone of your DB postings can be informal, your instructor will expect the content to be on a professional level. Your comments and questions for discussion should be clear and thoughtful, with correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. As with written assignments, the quality of your discussion postings will be graded on both content and presentation.

Criteria	% of Grade
Participation	50%
Writing	50%
TOTAL	100%

Hands-on Practice (HOP)

The instructor will assign Hands-on Practice exercises to a pair of students in class or individually online. Students pair up and practice exercises to learn specific programming languages, application programming interfaces (APIs), or tools related to the programming assignments or virtual labs.

Criteria	% of Grade
Practice Exercise	80%
Engagement	20%
TOTAL	100%

Virtual Lab (VL)

Students complete cloud-based labs that support the concepts taught within the course. VLs involve viewing instructional documents and following systematic instructions. Activities are embedded within each lab. The activities present a challenge to complete. Each lab is graded on accuracy and writing. A student has unlimited attempts at each lab to increase their accuracy

and learn the required skills. Reports submitted include a write up on their understandings and findings in their lab reports.

- VL01: Implementing Access Controls with Windows Active Directory
- VL02: Using Access Control Lists to Modify File System Permissions on Windows System
- VL03: Configuring BitLocker and Windows Encryption
- VL04: Identifying and Removing Malware from Windows Systems
- VL05: Managing Group Policy within the MS Windows Environment
- VL06: Creating a Scheduled Backup and Replicating System Folders
- VL07: Securing Servers with the Security Configuration Wizard and the Windows Firewall
- VL08: Securing Internet Client and Server Applications on Windows Systems
- VL09: Protecting Digital Evidence, Documentation, and the Chain of Custody
- VL10: Hardening Windows Server Security Using MS Baseline Security Analyzer

Criteria	% of Grade
Accuracy	80%
Writing	20%
TOTAL	100%

Knowledge Check (KC)

Weekly quizzes measure knowledge concepts acquired. Focus on the underlying principles and concepts rather than memorization to solve the quizzes.

Components	% of Grade
Correctness	100%
TOTAL	100%

Team Project (TP)

Teams consist of three to four students. Each team will use an instructor-approved topic relevant to the course.

The paper is to be between 6 and 7 pages. The required template for class submissions comes from international organizations, the Education Special Interest Group and the Computing Education + Information systems Applied Research. ([EDSIG/CONISAR](#)). The instructor may recommend teams submit their paper to conferences. Submissions are optional and will not impact the course grade. Additional revisions may be required after the course.

The instructor will provide students three report templates and one presentation template. The file name consists of team project number, team number, and the list of the team members. For example, "TP01 T03 Sam John Mark."

- TP01 for the proposal - "TP01 T0X Author1 Author2 Author3.docx"
- TP02 for the progress report - "TP02 T0X Author1 Author2 Author3.docx"
- TP03 for the final report - "TP03 T0X Author1 Author2 Author3.docx"
- TP04 for the final presentation slide - "TP04 T0X Author1 Author2 Author3.pptx"

As in any scholarly writing, students should not merely copy information from another author. Students should use evidence to support the contentions they have drawn from their findings and critically analyze related literature. In essence, each paper needs to be an analytical paper, not a summary of readings.

In addition, a team presentation slide is required.

- The presentation consists of 15+4 slides: 15 slides for content and 4 slides for cover, agenda, key reference, and Q&A.
- The PPT template is provided. Your team can change design and color for your team's purpose.
- If necessary, a presentation video (15 minutes) may be requested.
- If necessary, a demo video (a maximum of 1-2 minutes) may be requested. But the demo time should be included in the total presentation time (15 minutes).

Four submissions are required according to the following schedule:

- Proposal (1 page; 30 points) - Starting (Module 1) & Ending (Module 3)
- Progress Report (3-4 pages; 70 points; graded after the proposal has been submitted) - Starting (Module 4) & Ending (Module 7)
- Final Report (6-7 pages; 70 points; graded after the progress has been submitted) - Starting (Module 8) & Ending (Module 10)
- Final PPT (15+4slides, 30 points; graded after the final report has been submitted) - Starting (Module 8) & Ending (Module 10)

Students are expected to use the assigned readings, videos, and other materials throughout the quarter. Students will need to utilize additional sources that were not assigned by the professor. While stylized after an industry report, nonetheless, students are expected to employ APA formatting of citations, footnotes, and bibliography. Students must cite the sources of all ideas, facts, and information used that are not their own, even if they have put the information into their own words. Failure to do so is plagiarism, although the oversight is unintentional. To avoid plagiarism, check <https://library.cityu.edu/howto/apa-writing/avoid-plagiarism/>.

Project Description: Policy Praxis Report

Students will conduct an information security policy audit report on an organization in a group with three students (in case, two students with the instructor's approval). Throughout the course, students consider and analyze a case study of an organization with a homogeneous operating system environment like Windows, Linus, or Mac OS. Each student will select a different homogeneous operating system environment. This case study is used throughout their labs and class activities. In this project, the students will take the very same case study; however, they will conduct a policy audit that incorporates an alternative operating system environment from the provided case study. This project will be introduced to students in stages throughout the quarter. The students will use their lab reports and course activity artifacts and deliverables as templates for delivering a single report that contains the following sections:

- Executive Summary
- Encryption Management Policy

- Group Management Policy
- Recovery and Restoration Policy
- Network Security Controls and Administrative policy
- System Hardening and Securing Policy
- Backup Policy
- Software Development Management Policy
- Reference

TP Report

The student will provide a report formatted based on a template provided by the instructor. Students are required to improve the writing iteratively and incrementally every week. The revision will always happen during a quarter. Students will add new required sections to the existing paper every week.

The final report is the culmination of applied research and activities conducted throughout the quarter. The final report/paper provides a detailed problem and its solution likely to be encountered by a company or organization described in a case study supplied by the student.

Components	% of Grade
Structure	20%
Content	30%
Writing	30%
Reference	10%
Collaboration	10%
TOTAL	100%

TP Presentation

The student will report on the research outcomes, development, or other project efforts to an academically appropriate committee in a public forum. The nature of the presentation content will determine the specific makeup of the audience. The student will choose the format of the presentation, in consultation with the advisor. The layout and design must be appropriate and adequate to represent the outcomes of the effort. While students must make some form of a visual presentation, the presentation of the results may include publishing in a refereed publication, publication in a trade or popular magazine or journal, broadcast in an appropriate medium, or, in exceptional cases, limited dissemination within a closed community.

Each presenter will have 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions and answers. Each presenter must keep the total presentation time limit strictly.

Components	% of Grade
Structure	20%
Visual Presentation	30%
Verbal Quality & Engagement	30%
Collaboration	20%
TOTAL	100%

Course Policies

Course policies on topics such as Late Assignments, Participation, and Professional Writing are found under Course Information in the online course menu. Students are responsible for reviewing and applying these policies while enrolled in this course.

University Policies

Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to all of City University of Seattle's academic policies. The most current versions of these policies can be found in the [University Catalog](#) that is linked from the CityU Web site.

Title IX Statement

City University of Seattle and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If students have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage them to report this to the University. If a student speaks with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify CityU's Title IX coordinator and share the basic fact of the experience. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist students in understanding all of the options and in connecting students with all possible resources on and off campus.

To view CityU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the [Title IX](#) and [Campus Safety](#) pages in the my.cityu.edu portal.

Religious Accommodations

Washington state law requires that City University of Seattle develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The University's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available in the University Catalog. Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request Form found on the student dashboard in the my.cityu.edu student portal.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity in students requires the pursuit of scholarly activity that is free from fraud, deception and unauthorized collaboration with other individuals. Students are responsible for understanding CityU's policy on academic integrity and adhering to its standards in meeting all course requirements. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Academic Integrity Policy*.

Attendance

Students taking courses in any format at the University are expected to be diligent in their studies and to attend class regularly.

Regular class attendance is important in achieving learning outcomes in the course and may be a valid consideration in determining the final grade. For classes where a physical presence is

required, a student has attended if they are present at any time during the class session. For online classes, a student has attended if they have posted or submitted an assignment. A complete copy of this policy can be in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Attendance*.

Support Services

Disability Services Accommodations Statement

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Support Services at disability@cityu.edu or 206.239.4752 or visit the [Disability Support Services](#) page in the my.cityu.edu portal. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors.

Library Services

CityU librarians are available to help students find the resources and information they need to succeed in this course. Contact a CityU librarian through the [Ask a Librarian](#) service, or access [library resources and services online](#), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Smarthinking Tutoring

CityU students have access to free online tutoring offered through Smarthinking, including writing support, from certified tutors 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Contact CityU's Student Support Center at help@cityu.ed to request a user name and password.