ITR3: Introduction to Information Technology

2002–12–03

See http://openlib.org/home/krichel/courses/itr3p02a for the latest online version of this file.

Course Description
This course introduces students to fundamental facts and concepts of information technology. The course aims to cover computer hardware, operating systems, and computer networking. As a practical application, students will be introduced to building their own Linux machine. In addition, the course will be provide an introduction to information technologies that are completely hardware independent, such as XML and Unicode.

Course objectives
After taking this course students

- they will be able to understand basic concepts related to computer hardware
- they will have an introduction to computer operating systems
- they will understand basic networking protocols
- they will have an introductory understanding of XML

Prerequisites
There are no other formal prerequisites for this course.

Instructor
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Class structure
Classes will be held in the computer lab in the Palmer School between 17:45 and 20:20. Each class will have some presentation by the instructor. Some classes will be completely focussed on the completion of tasks.

Class details:
Readings
The slides prepared by the instructor are the initial readings. The slides contain pointers to further readings.

Assessment
There will be a quiz at the beginning of each class, except the first class or if it has been announced otherwise. The average of the quizzes will make up 100% of the grade, but the two lowest grades achieved will be discounted.

Students who are not satisfied with the grade may hand in written work. Such written work will discuss the usefulness of a package in the Debian software system. Students may choose this package as they please, but are encouraged to seek the advice of the instructor. If the student hands in written work, the grade of this written work will make 50% of the average. Such work will have to be handed in on the last day of the semester, i.e. 2002–12–16.