

Bootlin training course evaluation

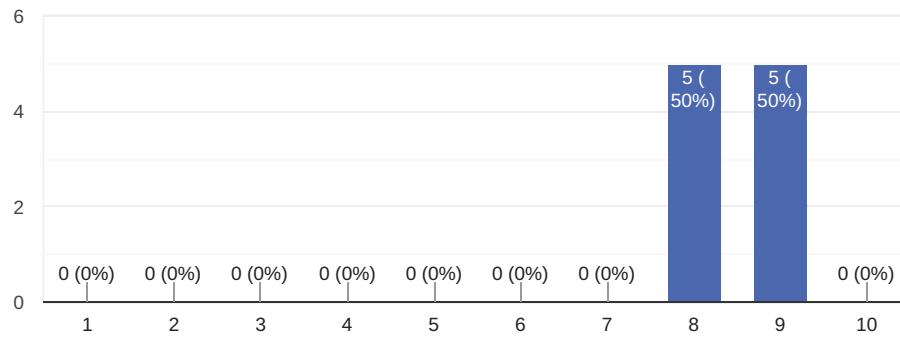
10 responses

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Overall rating of the course

 Copy

10 responses



Comments and suggestions

3 responses

Start off with the final "product" (i.e. the LED, nunchuk, and sound working on the device) so we can see what we'll end up with. I'm not sure how logistically possible it is, but I've attended a few trainings (also non-bootlin). They're all really good/valuable, but might be too much info squeezed into too little time. Maybe we can generally shift toward something closer to a university/quarter-type schedule: a few hours twice a week, so we have more time to do the labs on our own, etc. This is getting closer to boot camp territory, which I don't think you'd want, but I personally enjoy having longer wall time that's less compressed to digest the information!

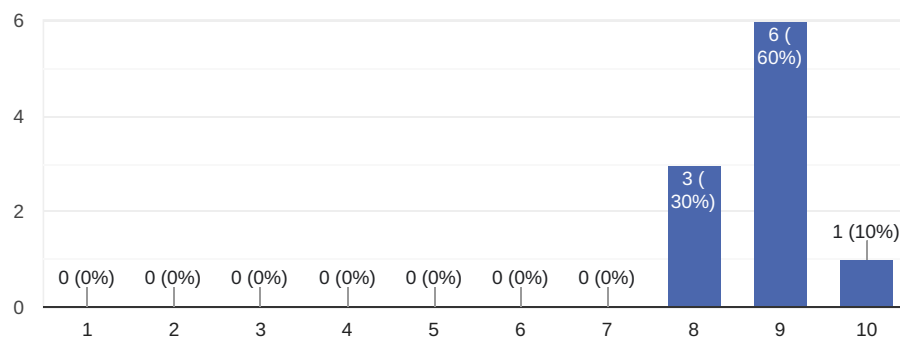
Very informative course. I've already shared the sign up link with several co-workers. And I'm very interested in taking bootlin's other courses too. The labs are really helpful to actually comprehend the material. When I read about these various tools on random websites, it's hard to really get the material to sink in. Now that I've used these tools on my own STM32 board, I understand them much better.

I really enjoyed everything about the course. There are some part that are not directly related with the job I do, but it's definitely very interesting to know them. Great work.

How useful were the lectures?

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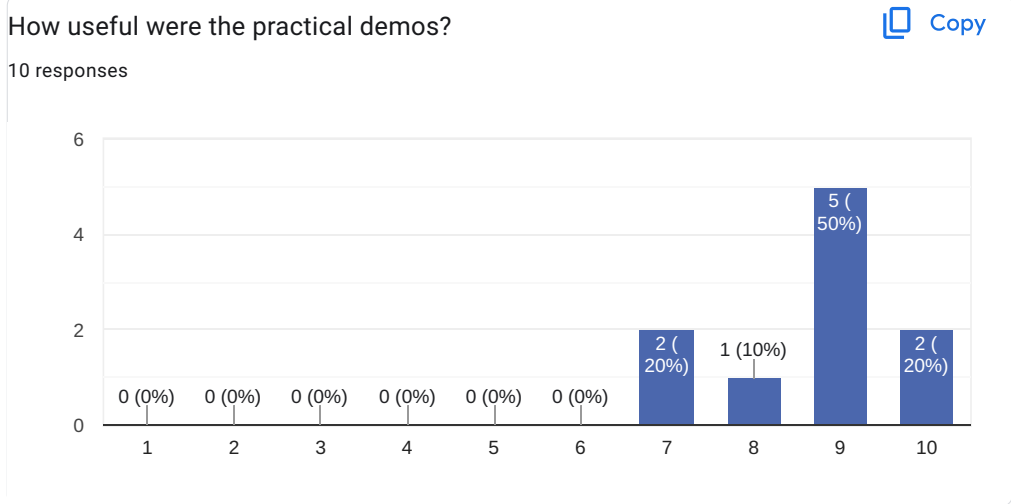
10 responses



Comments and suggestions
 2 responses

Great. Very informative. I'll definitely be keeping a copy of the slides handy as a reference for all my future linux work.

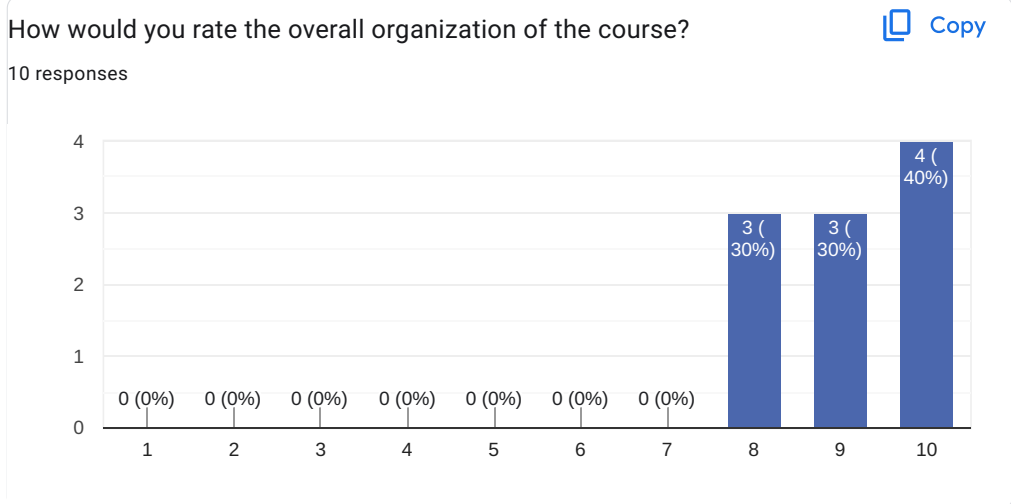
Nothing to add here. I really enjoyed attending them.



Comments and suggestions
 2 responses

Extremely useful. Great demos. Just a little fast paced.

It's very nice to see everything put together in the labs. I missed some steps for some of the labs but nothing that cannot be solved with a bit of research.



Comments and suggestions

3 responses

Really well-made course. I'd love it if we had time to do the labs ourselves, but that would add a lot of time and variance, so I understand. This honestly could/should be a 2-unit course in university, especially if it's aggregated with the other trainings (device driver, debugging). I'd totally sign up. My university had a course I regrettably never took (<https://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs150/archives.html>). It was the flagship course, and what you all offer here is very similar to me: propose a project idea, implement it on a device. CS150 isn't exactly the same, but I'd really love to take that course now and would be happy to pay for it. This course made me think that bootlin training have the pieces for it. It'd be wonderful to have your trainers on-hand to provide help and support as we implement a meaningful project to learn how to develop a non-trivial application on an embedded device.

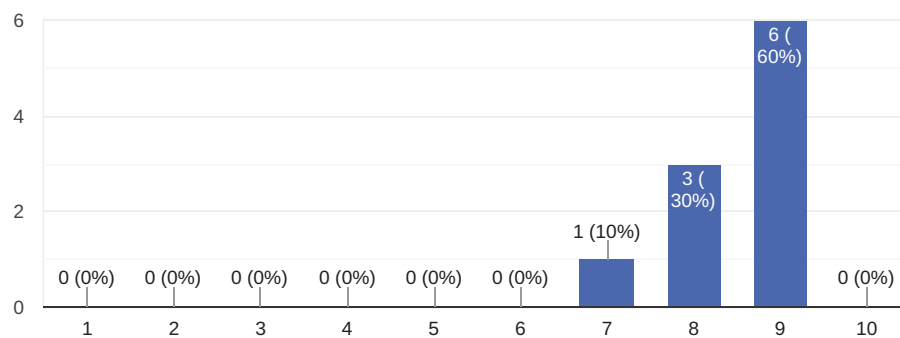
The course was very well organized. Having led training sessions on other topics in my job, I understand how hard it is to provide thorough, up-to-date documentation and stick to the course schedule while still answering all questions. This course did a great job of that.

Very good. Specially when the main trainer was not able to attend and another take over, that was brilliant, thanks for that.

How would you rate the trainer?



10 responses



Comments and suggestions

4 responses

I would perhaps use classroom interactions more, to engage with the trainees and keep focus. But might be hard online.

I really appreciate the constant probing for questions.

Greg was very knowledgeable. The only criticism I have might be more of a criticism on the course itself. It was very fast paced, especially the labs. I could not keep up with Greg while following along on my device. I ended up trying to do the labs the night before each session. I was usually successful because the lab manual is very thorough. But then I didn't really learn much more during the live lab sessions because I had already done those things the night before.

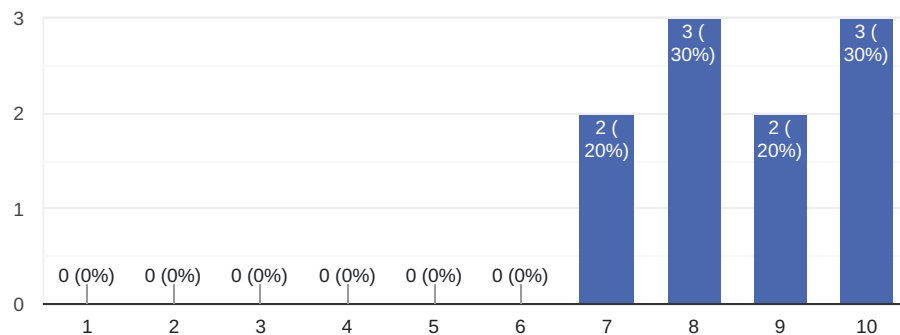
Really good! He was very kind and always open to answer questions. Maybe the only thing I'd try to improve is the network connectivity.



How did the course meet your learning objectives?



10 responses



Comments and suggestions

3 responses

I didn't have much spare time to actually do the labs, but following along and watching was truly great.

I know a fair amount about Linux - like I had used and/or heard of most of the tools covered in this course. But most of them I had never dug in and used in actual projects. The labs were great for getting a deeper understanding of all these tools.

All good. I missed a chapter on how to integrate a project into buildroot (even a very simple hello world written in C)

What part(s) of the course did you like most?

7 responses

The labs was a great way of getting hands-on experience.

The labs

Cross-compiling toolchains, Bootloaders and firmware, Accessing hardware devices

Doing yourself the labs is for sure the best way to learn (of course theoretical lectures are also required).

Labs

u-boot exercises were great. I picked this course specifically because we were having u-boot issues at my job and I had a hard time finding learning materials on u-boot. After taking this course, I realize it's actually pretty easy to use!

The first part about secure firmware and bootloaders and the one about DTS/DTB. Finally I got to understand a little how they work.



What part(s) of the course did you like least?

5 responses

Open source licenses and compliance

Some labs were run very fast by the trainer (of course trainees need to do the labs by themselves to actually learn).

Legal portions; it's important, but since I'm not personally working on anything I'd release, it was less relevant for me. Maybe make it an optional portion of the course at the beginning or end? I would have skipped it, but I suspect others would have joined. Alternatively, maybe have this as its own seminar or course. I don't know how many folks would pay for the basic info, but I'd hypothesize that maybe a license expert (who's not a lawyer) can provide consultation for engineers' specific projects? (Totally half-baked spitballing here...haha)

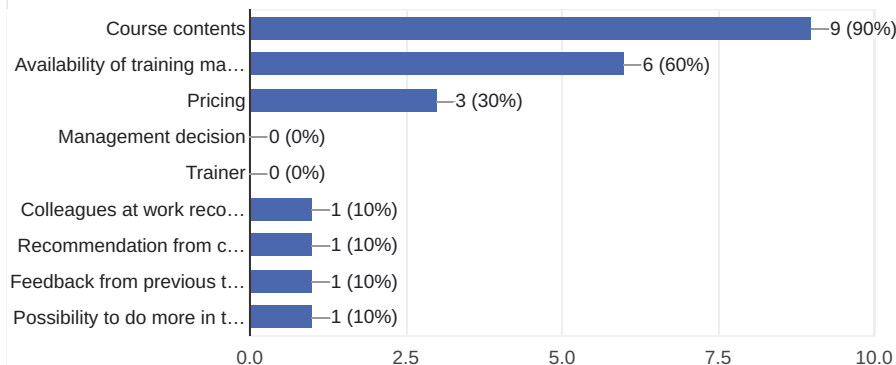
the fast pace

The last about embedded linux application development. I would have liked them to go into more depth, specially on how to integrate custom applications.

What reasons prompted you to choose a Bootlin course?



10 responses



Comments

1 response

I truly love that you all have your materials available for free online!!! The main motivation was getting live instruction. I wish I had better prepared so I could get more out of it, but I know better for the next set of trainings I'd like to do (see below).



Further training needs?

5 responses

I think there can be more free trainings for some basic stuff.

Depends on the progress and needs of our project..

Kernel device drivers, debugging.

I have a hard time finding entry-level training material about u-boot, so this course checked that box. I also have a hard time finding entry-level training material about wayland, so I'll be checking out your graphics class next.

Also, I have a hard time finding entry-level training material regarding Qt. Would be nice to have a course like this that covers using Qt.

Yocto, Buildroot, Linux kernel module development

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