



Assignment 2: Readings on History and Context

1 Overview

Anyone who is interested in working in an open source community ought to know what open source actually is, and something about the history of the open source movement, as well as some of public discussion about the differences between open source and the free software movement. Therefore, the purpose of this assignment is for you to become familiar with the history and background of the open source software movement.

2 Readings

There are three articles that you are to read:

1. Chapter 1 of *Producing Open Source Software: How to Run a Successful Free Software Project* by Karl Fogel. This chapter is ten pages long and discusses the history, mostly, of open source software.
2. If you did not read it last spring, *The Cathedral and the Bazaar* by Eric Raymond, which is a summary of the important concepts in the development of an open source project, from one person's perspective.
3. The article, *Why Open Source Misses the Point of Free Software* by Richard Stallman. This is Richard Stallman's view of what is wrong with open source.

3 Your Weekly Blog

Due to an error in my calendar calculations, your first weekly blog is named `2018-09-12-week01.md`. It should have been named `2018-09-05-weekly.md`, because the end of the first week is September 5, not September 12. To remedy this, your blog notes in response to these readings will be part of the first weekly blog, i.e., the one named `2018-09-12-week01.md`, not a new one. Make these posts before September 12th.

Please answer the following questions:

- What are three of the most significant things that Richard Stallman has done to advance the rise of the free and open source software movement?
- Eric Raymond identified several key principles in the development of an open source project. Name the two that strike you as being particularly insightful or significant, and briefly say why you think so.

Feel free to write anything else in your blog that you think is relevant.