

Enterprise Linux System Administration

Course Summary

Description

This is an in-depth course that explores installation, configuration and maintenance of Linux systems. The course focuses on issues universal to every workstation and server. The course material is designed to provide extensive hands-on experience. Topics include: installation and configuration; the boot process; user and group administration; filesystem administration, including quotas, ACLs, RAID and LVM; task automation; client networking; SELinux; software management; log files; troubleshooting; and more.

Topics

- Linux Kernel & Devices
- Systemd Overview
- Grub2/Systemd Boot Process
- Software Maintenance
- Local Storage Administration
- Lvm & Raid
- Remote Storage Administration
- User/Group Administration
- Pluggable Authentication Modules (Pam)
- Security Administration
- Basic Networking
- Advanced Networking
- Log File Administration
- Monitoring & Troubleshooting
- Installing RHEL9
- Manage Virtual Machines
- Backups

Audience

This course is designed for those wanting to gain knowledge and understanding of the installation, configuration and maintenance of Linux systems.

Prerequisites

Students should already be comfortable working in a Linux or Unix environment. Fundamentals such as the Linux filesystem, process management, and how to edit files will not be covered in class. An understanding of network concepts, and the TCP/IP protocol suite is helpful. These skills are taught in the GL120 "Linux Fundamentals" course.

Duration

Five days

Enterprise Linux System Administration

Course Outline

I. LINUX KERNEL & DEVICES

- A. Hardware Discovery Tools
- B. Kernel Hardware Info – /sys/
- C. /sys/ Structure
- D. udev
- E. Managing Linux Device Files
- F. List Block Devices
- G. SCSI Devices
- H. USB Devices
- I. USB Architecture
- J. Kernel Modules
- K. Configuring Kernel Components and Modules
- L. Handling Module Dependencies
- M. Configuring the Kernel via /proc/
- N. Console
- O. Virtual Terminals
- P. Keyboard & locale configuration
- Q. Serial Ports
- R. Random Numbers and /dev/random
- S. LAB TASKS
- T. Adjusting Kernel Options
- U. Linux Kernel Driver Compilation
- V. Introduction to Troubleshooting Labs
- W. Troubleshooting Practice: Kernel Modules

II. SYSTEMD OVERVIEW

- A. System Boot Method Overview
- B. systemd System and Service Manager
- C. Modifying systemd services
- D. systemd Service Sandboxing Features
- E. systemd Targets
- F. Using systemd
- G. Linux Runlevels Aliases
- H. Legacy Support for SysV init
- I. LAB TASKS
- J. Managing Services With Systemd's systemctl
- K. Creating a systemd unit file

III. GRUB2/SYSTEMD BOOT PROCESS

- A. Booting Linux on PCs
- B. GRUB 2
- C. GRUB 2 Configuration
- D. The Boot Loader Specification
- E. GRUB 2 Security
- F. Boot Parameters
- G. Initial RAM Filesystem

H. init

- I. Systemd local-fs.target and sysinit.target
- J. Systemd basic.target and multi-user.target
- K. Legacy local bootup script support
- L. System Configuration Files
- M. RHEL9 Configuration Utilities
- N. Shutdown and Reboot
- O. LAB TASKS
- P. Boot Process
- Q. Booting directly to a bash shell
- R. GRUB Command Line
- S. Basic GRUB Security
- T. Troubleshooting Practice: Boot Process

IV. SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE

- A. Managing Software
- B. RPM Features
- C. RPM Architecture
- D. RPM Package Files
- E. Working With RPMs
- F. Querying and Verifying with RPM
- G. Updating the Kernel RPM
- H. Dealing With RPM & Yum Digest Changes
- I. DNF Plugins & RHSM Subscription Manager
- J. DNF Version Lock Plugin
- K. DNF Repositories
- L. DNF Repository Groups
- M. Compiling/Installing from Source
- N. Manually Installed Shared Libraries
- O. Rebuilding Source RPM Packages
- P. LAB TASKS
- Q. Managing Software with RPM
- R. Creating a Custom RPM Repository
- S. Querying the RPM Database
- T. Installing Software via RPM & Source and Rebuilding SRPMs
- U. Troubleshooting Practice: Package Management

V. LOCAL STORAGE ADMINISTRATION

- A. Partitioning Disks with fdisk & gdisk
- B. Resizing a GPT Partition with gdisk
- C. Partitioning Disks with parted
- D. Non-Interactive Disk Partitioning with sfdisk

Filesystem Creatio

Enterprise Linux System Administration

Course Outline (cont'd)

- E. Persistent Block Devices
- F. Mounting Filesystems
- G. Resizing Filesystems
- H. Filesystem Maintenance
- I. Managing an XFS Filesystem
- J. Swap
- K. Filesystem Structures
- L. Determining Disk Usage With df and du
- M. Configuring Disk Quotas
- N. Setting Quotas
- O. Viewing and Monitoring Quotas
- P. XFS Project quotas
- Q. Filesystem Attributes
- R. LAB TASKS
- S. Creating and Managing Filesystems
- T. Hot Adding Swap
- U. XFS Copy-on-Write
- V. Setting User Quotas
- W. Creating XFS Project Quotas

VI. LVM & RAID

- A. Logical Volume Management
- B. Implementing LVM
- C. Creating Logical Volumes
- D. Activating LVM VGs
- E. Exporting and Importing a VG
- F. Examining LVM Components
- G. Changing LVM Components
- H. Advanced LVM Overview
- I. Advanced LVM: Components & Object Tags
- J. Advanced LVM: Automated Storage Tiering
- K. Advanced LVM: Thin Provisioning
- L. Advanced LVM: Striping & Mirroring
- M. Advanced LVM: RAID Volumes
- N. RAID Concepts
- O. Array Creation with mdadm
- P. Software RAID Monitoring
- Q. Software RAID Control and Display
- R. LAB TASKS
- S. Creating and Managing LVM Volumes
- T. Creating LVM Thin Volumes
- U. Using Boom to Boot to an LVM Snapshot
- V. Troubleshooting Practice: LVM
- W. Creating and Managing a RAID-5 Array

VII. REMOTE STORAGE ADMINISTRATION

- A. Remote Storage Overview
- B. Remote Filesystem Protocols
- C. Remote Block Device Protocols
- D. File Sharing via NFS
- E. NFSv4+
- F. NFS Clients
- G. NFS Server Configuration
- H. Implementing NFSv4
- I. AutoFS
- J. AutoFS Configuration
- K. Accessing Windows/Samba Shares from Linux
- L. SAN Multipathing
- M. Multipath Configuration
- N. Multipathing Best Practices
- O. iSCSI Architecture
- P. Open-iSCSI Initiator Implementation
- Q. iSCSI Initiator Discovery
- R. iSCSI Initiator Node Administration
- S. Mounting iSCSI Targets at Boot
- T. iSCSI Multipathing Considerations
- U. LAB TASKS
- V. Using autofs
- W. NFS Server Configuration
- X. iSCSI Initiator Configuration
- Y. Multipathing with iSCSI

VIII. USER/GROUP ADMINISTRATION

- A. Approaches to Storing User Accounts
- B. User and Group Concepts
- C. User Administration
- D. Modifying Accounts
- E. Group Administration
- F. Password Aging
- G. Default User Files
- H. Controlling Login Sessions
- I. RHEL DS Client Configuration
- J. System Security Services Daemon (SSSD)
- K. LAB TASKS
- L. User and Group Administration
- M. Using LDAP for Centralized User Accounts
- N. Troubleshooting Practice: Account Management

Enterprise Linux System Administration

Course Outline (cont'd)

IX. PLUGGABLE AUTHENTICATION MODULES (PAM)

- A. PAM Overview
- B. PAM Module Types
- C. PAM Order of Processing
- D. PAM Control Statements
- E. PAM Modules
- F. pam_unix
- G. pam_nologin.so
- H. pam_limits.so
- I. pam_wheel.so
- J. pam_xauth.so
- K. LAB TASKS
- L. Restricting superuser access to wheel group membership
- M. Using pam_nologin to Restrict Logins
- N. Setting Limits with the pam_limits Modules
- O. Using pam_limits to Restrict Simultaneous Logins

X. SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

- A. Security Concepts
- B. Tightening Default Security
- C. Security Advisories
- D. Fine Grained Authorizations with Polkit
- E. File Access Control Lists
- F. Manipulating ACLs
- G. Viewing ACLs
- H. Backing Up ACLs
- I. File Creation Permissions with umask
- J. User Private Group Scheme
- K. Alternatives to UPG
- L. SELinux Security Framework
- M. SELinux Modes
- N. SELinux Commands
- O. Choosing an SELinux Policy
- P. SELinux Booleans
- Q. Permissive Domains
- R. SELinux Policy Tools
- S. FirewallD
- T. LAB TASKS
- U. User Private Groups
- V. Using Filesystem ACLs
- W. Exploring SELinux Modes
- X. SELinux File Contexts
- Y. SELinux Contexts in Action

XI. BASIC NETWORKING

- A. IPv4 Fundamentals
- B. TCP/UDP Fundamentals
- C. Linux Network Interfaces
- D. Ethernet Hardware Tools
- E. Network Configuration with ip Command
- F. Configuring Routing Tables
- G. IP to MAC Address Mapping with ARP
- H. Starting and Stopping Interfaces
- I. NetworkManager
- J. DNS Clients
- K. DHCP Clients
- L. Network Diagnostics
- M. Information from ss and netstat
- N. Hardware and System Clock
- O. Continual Time Sync with NTP
- P. Time Synchronization with Chronyd
- Q. LAB TASKS
- R. Network Discovery
- S. Using nmcli
- T. Chrony Client Configuration

XII. ADVANCED NETWORKING

- A. Multiple IP Addresses
- B. Configuring a DHCP server
- C. IPv6
- D. Interface Aggregation
- E. Interface Bonding
- F. Network Teaming
- G. Interface Bridging
- H. 802.1q VLANS
- I. Tuning Kernel Network Settings
- J. TCP Congestion Control
- K. LAB TASKS
- L. Multiple IP Addresses Per Network Interface
- M. Configuring IPv6
- N. TCP Congestion Control
- O. Troubleshooting Practice: Networking

Enterprise Linux System Administration

Course Outline (cont'd)

XIII. LOG FILE ADMINISTRATION

- A. System Logging
- B. systemd Journal
- C. systemd Journal's journalctl
- D. Secure Logging with Journal's Log Sealing
- E. Cockpit - Logs
- F. Rsyslog
- G. /etc/rsyslog.conf
- H. Log Management
- I. Log Anomaly Detector
- J. Sending logs from the shell
- K. LAB TASKS
- L. Using the systemd Journal
- M. Setting up a Full Debug Logfile
- N. Remote Syslog Configuration
- O. Remote Rsyslog TLS Configuration

XIV. MONITORING & TROUBLESHOOTING

- A. System Status – Memory
- B. System Status – I/O
- C. System Status – CPU
- D. Performance Trending with sar
- E. Determining Service to Process Mapping
- F. Real-time Monitoring of Resources — Cgroups
- G. Troubleshooting Basics: The Process
- H. Troubleshooting Basics: The Tools
- I. strace and ltrace
- J. Common Problems
- K. Troubleshooting Incorrect File Permissions
- L. Inability to Boot
- M. Typos in Configuration Files
- N. Corrupt Filesystems
- O. RHEL9 Rescue Environment
- P. LAB TASKS
- Q. System Activity Reporter
- R. PRE-INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS
- S. Pre-Installation Considerations
- T. Hardware Compatibility
- U. Multi-OS Booting
- V. Partition Considerations
- W. Filesystem Planning
- X. Selecting a Filesystem

XV. INSTALLING RHEL9

- A. Anaconda: An Overview
- B. Anaconda: Booting the System
- C. Anaconda: Common Boot Options
- D. Anaconda: Loading Anaconda and Packages
- E. Anaconda: Storage Options
- F. Anaconda: Troubleshooting
- G. FirstBoot
- H. Kickstart
- I. Network Booting with PXE
- J. A Typical Install
- K. LAB TASKS
- L. Linux Installation
- M. Automating Installation with Kickstart

XVI. MANAGE VIRTUAL MACHINES

- A. Virtualization: What and Why?
- B. Introducing libvirt
- C. libvirt: Basic Concepts
- D. libvirt: Storage Architecture
- E. libvirt: Network Architecture
- F. libvirt: Graphical Tools
- G. libvirt: Command Line Tools
- H. virsh: Basics
- I. virsh: Common Tasks
- J. virt-install
- K. Virtual Machine Guest Tools & Drivers
- L. libguestfs and guestfish
- M. LAB TASKS
- N. Installing a Virtual Machine

XVII. BACKUPS

- A. Backup Software
- B. Managing Optical Media
- C. SCSI Tape Drives & Libraries
- D. Backup Examples
- E. LAB TASKS
- F. Using rsync and ssh for Backups
- G. Using tar for Backups
- H. Using cpio for Backups
- I. Creating ISO Images for Backups
- J. Using dump and restore for Backups