

Course AA755

Mac OS X Server Fundamentals

Overview

This is the second of two courses that will enable you gain the Apple Certified Technical Coordinator (ACTC) qualification.

Mac OS X Server Fundamentals teaches Macintosh technical coordinators the essential concepts, tools, and tasks necessary for managing Mac OS X Server in an integrated network of Mac OS systems. From installation and configuration to testing and troubleshooting, students learn how to manage multiple users and directory services, file servers, web servers, email servers, network printing, and network booting. This course helps organizations to fully leverage the power, flexibility, and simplicity of Mac OS X Server in their environments and includes topics to help integrate Mac OS X Server - built on an open UNIX-like foundation - with other platforms such as earlier Mac OS versions, Windows, and UNIX.

Hands-on exercises provide students with direct, practical experience. The course utilizes tools such as Server Admin, Macintosh Manager, and NetBoot to perform common administrative tasks, and also presents conceptual and technical explanations that help students manage systems more effectively.

Objectives

Learn how to setup, configure, and perform basic administration of Mac OS X Server in a heterogeneous, networked environment.

Course Content

- Installation
- Users, groups, and directory services
- Network, Internet, and web services
- File sharing services
- Email services
- Printing services
- Management of networked Mac OS X systems using graphical administration tools
- Security
- Troubleshooting

Topic	Description
Mac OS X and Mac OS X Server overview	Presents a conceptual and architectural overview of typical Mac OS X and Mac OS X Server services running in a networked environment. Provides an orientation to system administration tools and establishes a practical approach for system administration.
Networking services	Starts with a brief review of the essential terms and concepts of TCP/IP networking. Covers important networking services including DHCP and DNS for IP and host name maintenance, SLP for discovery of services, and IP filtering for security.

Users and groups	Explores services for defining and managing local and networkwide users and groups. Covers topics such as user authentication, user and group ids, and primary groups.
File systems and services	Presents Mac OS X Server support for file systems and privileges based on users and groups. Covers a variety of techniques for file sharing including AFP (for Mac OS), NFS (for UNIX), SMB (for Windows) and FTP (for Internet). Includes managing general share points, automounting, giving users networkwide home directories located on a server.
Web services	Covers industry-standard web services using the Apache web server included with Mac OS X Server. Addresses the configuration and maintenance of multiple web sites, WebDAV for web-based authoring, and an overview of dynamic content generation. Includes advanced issues such as performance enhancements through caching and proxy servers as well as security using SSL. Provides a useful orientation to additional technologies such as WebObjects and QuickTime Streaming Server.
Printing services	Presents an overview of printing services and supported printers. Covers print job submission and management as well as print server monitoring.
Mail services	Explores Mac OS X Server mail services for enabling and configuring user mail accounts on the server and accessing mail services from desktop systems. Covers the basic processes of mail exchange including protocols such as SMTP, POP, and IMAP. Addresses DNS and MX records for mail routing.
Process view of services	Explains how service processes are managed by the operating system. Covers essential concepts such as daemons, process attributes, privileges, monitoring, quitting and restarting.
Macintosh Manager	Presents Macintosh Manager for managing users, workgroups and computers in a highly controlled network environment. Provides an alternative to standard Mac OS X Server user and group services that are especially relevant for pre-Mac OS X desktop systems.
NetBoot	Examines NetBoot for booting clients from a centrally maintained system image, which is useful for ensuring standard system behavior across boots and diskless workstations. Shows how to build custom images and maintain user preferences in conjunction with Macintosh Manager. Provides a detailed description of the NetBoot process, including protocols and network configurations.
Network users and directory services	Describes how to setup a NetInfo domain for network user accounts and server-based home directories. Explains how directory services controls authentication. Introduces NetInfo as well as plug-in support for other directory standards such as LDAP.

Teaching Methods

Mac OS X Server Fundamentals combines lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on student exercises performed on Mac OS X Server and Mac OS X systems.

Participants

Macintosh technical coordinators who need to manage a network of Mac OS and Mac OS X Server systems.

Prerequisites

Practical end-user experience with a desktop operating system

End-user experience with Mac OS (Mac OS X preferred)

Familiarity with basic desktop services such as file sharing, web serving, multiple users, printing, and email

Familiarity with TCP/IP

Experience with AppleShare IP (beneficial)

Successful completion of Mac OS X Administration Basics course

Cost

£595 + VAT

Course Length

3 Days