

Module 1: Introduce Ansible

1. Overview of Ansible

- Introduction to Ansible
- Benefits of using Ansible for automation
- Differences between Ansible and other automation tools

2. Ansible Architecture

- Master and managed node relationship
- Ansible control node and managed node setup

3. Core Components of Ansible

- Inventory, modules, tasks, and playbooks
- Understanding how these components interact

4. Installation of Ansible

- Installing Ansible on a control node
- Installation dependencies for Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

5. Introduction to Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

- What is Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform?
- Overview of its capabilities and use cases

6. How Ansible Executes Commands

- Connection types: SSH, WinRM
- Command execution workflow

7. Using Ansible Galaxy

- What is Ansible Galaxy?
- Finding, using, and contributing to Ansible roles from Galaxy

8. Security Best Practices in Ansible

- Authentication methods (SSH keys, passwordless authentication)
- Ansible Vault for securing sensitive data

Module 2: Implement an Ansible Playbook

1. Understanding Ansible Playbooks

- Introduction to playbooks and their syntax
 - Structure of a basic playbook
 - 2. Creating an Inventory of Managed Hosts**
 - Static vs dynamic inventories
 - Format of an inventory file (INI, YAML)
 - 3. Writing Simple Ansible Playbooks**
 - Defining hosts and tasks
 - Running commands and managing services
 - 4. Variables in Playbooks**
 - Using variables to customize playbooks
 - Defining variables in playbooks and inventories
 - 5. Using Handlers in Playbooks**
 - What are handlers and when to use them
 - Defining handlers for specific tasks
 - 6. Execution Flow in Ansible Playbooks**
 - Task ordering and dependencies
 - Controlling playbook execution flow
 - 7. Using Loops and Conditionals**
 - Implementing loops in playbooks
 - Writing conditional tasks for specific situations
 - 8. Running and Debugging Playbooks**
 - Running playbooks with the ansible-playbook command
 - Debugging and troubleshooting playbook execution
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Module 3: Manage Variables and Facts

- 1. Introduction to Variables**
 - Defining and using variables in Ansible
 - Variable types: strings, integers, lists, and dictionaries
- 2. Variable Precedence**

- Understanding variable precedence
 - Where and how to define variables in Ansible
 - 3. Using Facts in Ansible**
 - What are facts and how are they gathered?
 - Using the setup module to gather facts
 - 4. Managing Variable Scope**
 - Global vs local variables
 - Setting variables per host, group, or playbook
 - 5. Facts and Conditional Logic**
 - Using facts to drive task execution
 - Writing conditional tasks based on gathered facts
 - 6. Using Ansible Vault to Manage Secrets**
 - Introduction to Ansible Vault for sensitive data
 - Encrypting and decrypting variables with Vault
 - 7. Best Practices for Managing Variables**
 - Organizing variables across playbooks
 - Keeping variables secure and maintainable
 - 8. Debugging Variables and Facts**
 - Using the debug module for troubleshooting
 - Viewing gathered facts during playbook runs
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Module 4: Implement Task Control

- 1. Task Execution Control**
 - Controlling task execution flow using when, until, and retries
 - Task skipping and conditional execution
- 2. Managing Handlers**
 - Defining and using handlers for task events
 - Best practices for efficient handler use
- 3. Understanding Task Failures**

- Handling task failures with the failed_when condition
 - Using the ignore_errors directive
4. **Task Tags and Skipping Tasks**
 - Using tags to selectively run tasks
 - Skipping tasks with specific tags during execution
 5. **Looping through Tasks**
 - Looping through a list of items with with_items
 - Using loop for more advanced looping techniques
 6. **Task Delegation and Asynchronous Tasks**
 - Delegating tasks to other hosts
 - Running tasks asynchronously
 7. **Task Notifications**
 - Sending notifications upon task completion
 - Integrating with external systems for task notifications
 8. **Testing and Debugging Task Control**
 - Using verbose output for troubleshooting
 - Validating playbook task flow
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Module 5: Deploy Files to Managed Hosts

1. **Understanding File Deployment in Ansible**
 - Using the copy, template, and fetch modules
 - Deploying configuration files to remote hosts
2. **Managing Files with the copy Module**
 - Copying local files to remote hosts
 - Setting permissions and ownership
3. **Using the template Module**
 - Rendering files with Jinja2 templates
 - Using variables to customize file deployment
4. **Managing Directories on Managed Hosts**

- Using the file module to create, modify, and remove directories
 - Setting ownership and permissions for directories
5. **Synchronizing Files with the synchronize Module**
 - Syncing files between local and remote systems
 - Managing directories efficiently with rsync
 6. **File Management Best Practices**
 - Managing large files and directories
 - Ensuring idempotency in file deployments
 7. **Error Handling in File Deployment**
 - Handling errors when copying files
 - Ensuring deployment is successful even in case of errors
 8. **Testing File Deployment**
 - Verifying files are deployed correctly
 - Using checksums and diffs to verify file integrity
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Module 6: Manage Complex Plays and Playbooks

1. **Complex Playbook Structures**
 - Organizing plays into multiple tasks
 - Writing modular, reusable playbooks
2. **Managing Large Inventories**
 - Handling large numbers of hosts in inventory
 - Grouping hosts by roles and attributes
3. **Handling Complex Variables**
 - Using complex data structures like dictionaries and lists
 - Passing variables between plays and tasks
4. **Writing Plays with Multiple Hosts**
 - Defining multiple hosts per play
 - Running tasks across a variety of hosts
5. **Conditionally Executing Tasks Across Multiple Hosts**

- Using the when directive for conditional task execution
 - Managing host-specific tasks in large playbooks
6. **Running Playbooks in Parallel**
 - Using async and poll for parallel task execution
 - Optimizing playbooks for speed
 7. **Reusing Playbooks for Different Environments**
 - Using variables to customize playbook behavior
 - Creating reusable playbook templates for different environments
 8. **Debugging Complex Playbooks**
 - Troubleshooting issues in large playbooks
 - Using verbosity and error messages for debugging
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Module 7: Simplify Playbooks with Roles

1. **Introduction to Ansible Roles**
 - What are roles and why use them?
 - The structure of a role
2. **Creating Custom Roles**
 - Writing a custom role with tasks, handlers, and defaults
 - Organizing playbooks using roles
3. **Using Predefined Roles from Ansible Galaxy**
 - Installing and using roles from Ansible Galaxy
 - Customizing downloaded roles for specific use cases
4. **Role Variables and Defaults**
 - Managing variables in roles
 - Setting default variables and overriding them
5. **Role Dependencies**
 - Defining dependencies between roles
 - Using dependencies field to manage role interactions
6. **Optimizing Playbooks with Roles**

- Reusing roles across multiple playbooks
 - Managing roles in large-scale environments
7. **Managing Role Files and Templates**
 - Using files and templates within roles
 - Organizing and managing role content
 8. **Testing and Debugging Roles**
 - Using ansible-lint to ensure role quality
 - Debugging role execution
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Module 8: Troubleshoot Ansible

1. **Understanding Common Ansible Errors**
 - Analyzing error messages and troubleshooting playbook failures
 - Interpreting syntax, task, and connection errors
2. **Verbose Mode for Debugging**
 - Using -v, -vv, -vvv options to get more detailed output
 - Understanding the output from debug mode
3. **Using the debug Module**
 - Adding debug tasks to help troubleshoot playbooks
 - Inspecting variables and facts with the debug module
4. **Handling Network and SSH Issues**
 - Troubleshooting SSH connectivity problems
 - Verifying network configurations
5. **Error Handling in Playbooks**
 - Using failed_when and ignore_errors to manage playbook failures
 - Implementing task retries and timeouts
6. **Validating Playbooks with ansible-lint**
 - Using Ansible Lint to check for best practices
 - Identifying and fixing issues before execution
7. **Troubleshooting with Logs**

- Enabling and analyzing Ansible logs
 - Using ansible-playbook with logging enabled
- 8. Best Practices for Troubleshooting Playbooks**
- Structuring playbooks for easier debugging
 - Common strategies for isolating issues
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Module 9: Automate Linux Administration Tasks

1. Automating Package Management

- Installing, updating, and removing packages with Ansible
- Ensuring package idempotency in playbooks

2. Automating Service Management

- Starting, stopping, and restarting services
- Ensuring services are running as expected

3. User and Group Management

- Creating and managing users and groups
- Modifying user privileges and managing access

4. Managing System Files and Directories

- Automating configuration file edits
- Creating and managing system directories

5. Network Configuration Automation

- Automating network configuration changes
- Managing firewall settings and network interfaces

6. Disk and File System Management

- Automating disk partitioning, mounting, and file system management
- Ensuring disk usage limits are not exceeded

7. Scheduled Task Automation

- Managing cron jobs with Ansible
- Ensuring periodic tasks are automated and reliable

8. Security and Compliance Automation

- Applying security patches with Ansible
- Automating system hardening tasks

Module 10: Advanced Playbook Concepts

1. Defining Roles in Ansible

- Structure and purpose of roles
- Breaking down a playbook into roles for modularity

2. Role Dependencies

- Defining role dependencies to create complex setups
- Using the dependencies keyword to automate role chaining

3. Managing Role Variables

- Defining variables in roles
- Overriding role variables in playbooks and inventories

4. Using Ansible Galaxy for Roles

- Installing and utilizing roles from Ansible Galaxy
- Customizing downloaded roles to fit specific needs

5. Managing Files and Templates in Roles

- Using the file and template modules within roles
- Creating custom configuration files using Jinja2 templates

6. Role Handlers

- Understanding handlers within roles
- Triggering actions only when necessary in a role

7. Best Practices for Role Structure

- Organizing roles for efficiency and clarity
- Structuring roles to ensure scalability and maintainability

8. Debugging and Testing Roles

- Debugging issues within roles
- Using ansible-lint for quality checks on roles

Module 11: Advanced Inventory Management

1. Introduction to Dynamic Inventory

- What is dynamic inventory?
- Setting up dynamic inventories using cloud providers like AWS, Azure, or Google Cloud

2. Inventory Plugins

- Using different inventory plugins (e.g., AWS EC2, VMware, etc.)
- Setting up inventory sources with plugins

3. Grouping Hosts in Inventories

- Creating and managing host groups
- Using group variables for better organization

4. Variables in Inventories

- Defining and overriding variables in inventory files
- Using group and host-specific variables effectively

5. Host Facts and Dynamic Variables

- Using `ansible_facts` to gather system information dynamically
- Customizing inventory with host facts

6. Inventory Hostnames and Aliases

- Managing hostnames and creating aliases in inventories
- Using `ansible_ssh_host` for controlling SSH connections

7. Using Group Variables for Configuration Management

- Defining common variables for a group of hosts
- Ensuring consistent configuration across multiple hosts

8. Inventory File Best Practices

- Organizing inventory files for large-scale environments
- Using `.ini`, `.yaml`, or `.json` formats and deciding when to use each

Module 12: Ansible Facts and Variables

1. What Are Ansible Facts?

- Understanding facts and how they are gathered
- How to use the `setup` module to gather facts

2. Using Facts in Playbooks

- Accessing and using facts in tasks and templates
- Fact-based conditional execution

3. Defining and Using Variables

- Scope of variables in Ansible
- Defining variables in playbooks, inventories, and files

4. Handling Complex Data Structures

- Working with lists, dictionaries, and nested variables
- Using Jinja2 filters to manipulate data structures

5. Managing Secrets and Sensitive Data

- Using Ansible Vault to store sensitive variables
- Best practices for securing passwords and API keys

6. Overriding Variables

- Understanding variable precedence
- Overriding variable values using command line or extra-vars

7. Dynamic Variables and Facts

- Using dynamic inventories to pass variables to playbooks
- Modifying facts at runtime

8. Debugging Facts and Variables

- Using the debug module to print variables and facts
- Troubleshooting issues related to variables and facts

Module 13: Ansible Automation with APIs

1. Using Ansible with APIs

- Automating API calls with Ansible
- Using the uri module to interact with RESTful APIs

2. Interacting with Cloud APIs

- Automating cloud infrastructure management with Ansible (e.g., AWS, GCP)
- Example playbooks to provision and manage resources on cloud platforms

3. Handling Authentication with APIs

- Managing API keys and credentials
- Using Ansible Vault to secure API tokens

4. API Error Handling

- Handling API responses and errors in Ansible playbooks
- Retrying failed API requests with Ansible task control

5. Using Ansible to Automate Web Applications

- Automating web application deployment using APIs
- Managing DNS, CDN, and load balancers through API integration

6. Scheduling API Calls with Cron Jobs

- Automating API calls periodically
- Setting up cron jobs using Ansible for periodic API interactions

7. Automating Network Devices via APIs

- Using Ansible to interact with network device APIs (e.g., Cisco, Juniper)
- Example playbooks to automate network configurations

8. Best Practices for API Integration

- Using Ansible in a RESTful automation environment
- Ensuring idempotency and managing retries when interacting with APIs

Module 14: Using Ansible for Configuration Management

1. Configuration Management Overview

- What is configuration management and why it's important
- Key components: idempotency, versioning, and consistency

2. Ansible vs Other Configuration Management Tools

- Comparing Ansible to Chef, Puppet, and SaltStack
- Benefits of using Ansible for configuration management

3. Managing System Configuration Files

- Using the copy, template, and lineinfile modules to manage config files
- Example use cases: managing `/etc/hosts`, `/etc/nginx/nginx.conf`, etc.

4. Automating Software Installation and Configuration

- Using Ansible to ensure consistent software installations
- Automating configuration settings for different environments

5. Managing Package Updates with Ansible

- Keeping systems up-to-date by automating package updates
- Managing software repositories using Ansible

6. Automating Server Hardening and Security Configuration

- Using Ansible to apply security patches and enforce best practices
- Automating firewall and SELinux settings

7. Ensuring Compliance with Desired State

- Using Ansible for compliance auditing
- Ensuring servers meet security baselines and configuration standards

8. Best Practices for Configuration Management

- Managing configurations across large infrastructures
- Organizing playbooks and roles for maintainability

Module 15: Using Ansible for Application Deployment

1. Automating Application Installation

- Using Ansible to install and configure applications
- Best practices for deploying applications consistently across environments

2. Managing Deployment Artifacts

- Managing binaries, configuration files, and packages in deployments
- Using the unarchive and copy modules for deployment artifacts

3. Deploying Web Applications

- Automating deployment for common web servers (Apache, Nginx)
- Managing SSL certificates, virtual hosts, and application configurations

4. Automating Database Deployment

- Using Ansible to deploy and configure databases (MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB)
- Example playbooks for creating and managing databases

5. **Scaling Applications with Ansible**

- Using Ansible to scale applications horizontally
- Adding or removing application servers automatically

6. **Continuous Integration (CI) with Ansible**

- Integrating Ansible into CI/CD pipelines
- Automating testing, staging, and production deployments

7. **Rolling Updates and Downtime Minimization**

- Performing rolling updates with Ansible to ensure zero downtime
- Techniques for updating servers with minimal service disruption

8. **Post-Deployment Configuration**

- Automating post-deployment tasks like database migrations, cache clearing, etc.
 - Ensuring the application is properly configured after deployment
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Module 16: Ansible for Continuous Delivery (CD)

1. **Introduction to Continuous Delivery**

- What is Continuous Delivery and why is it important?
- The role of automation in achieving continuous delivery

2. **Ansible in a CI/CD Pipeline**

- How Ansible integrates with Jenkins, GitLab CI, or other CI tools
- Automating deployments from code commit to production

3. **Managing Deployment Stages**

- Using Ansible to automate deployment stages (development, staging, production)
- Managing different environments using variables and inventories

4. **Automating Test Environments**

- Using Ansible to spin up and tear down test environments
- Running unit, integration, and acceptance tests automatically

5. **Rollback Mechanisms with Ansible**

- Creating rollback strategies for failed deployments
- Using Ansible to restore systems and applications to a previous state

6. Version Control Integration

- Managing code deployments with version control systems (Git)
- Automating code pull and deployment to remote servers

7. Zero-Downtime Deployments

- Strategies for achieving zero-downtime deployments with Ansible
- Using load balancers and rolling updates for continuous availability

8. Best Practices for Continuous Delivery with Ansible

- Organizing playbooks, roles, and inventories for CI/CD success
 - Ensuring maintainability and scalability in a continuous delivery pipeline
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Module 17: Ansible for Cloud Automation

1. Introduction to Cloud Automation

- The benefits of automating cloud resources with Ansible
- Cloud providers supported by Ansible (AWS, GCP, Azure, etc.)

2. Provisioning Cloud Resources

- Automating instance creation, networking, and storage on AWS/GCP
- Using Ansible modules for managing cloud resources

3. Managing Cloud Infrastructure with Ansible

- Provisioning and managing EC2 instances, networks, and storage
- Creating VPCs, subnets, and configuring security groups using Ansible

4. Cloud Application Deployment with Ansible

- Deploying applications in cloud environments (AWS, GCP, Azure)
- Using cloud-native services like ECS, Lambda, and GKE with Ansible

5. Cost Optimization and Scaling Cloud Infrastructure

- Using Ansible to scale cloud resources based on load
- Automating the shutdown and startup of cloud resources to optimize costs

6. Integrating Cloud with On-Premise Systems

- Hybrid cloud automation strategies
- Managing both cloud and on-premise environments with a single Ansible setup

7. Security and Compliance in Cloud Automation

- Managing cloud security groups, IAM roles, and firewalls using Ansible
- Automating security policies and audits in the cloud

8. Best Practices for Cloud Automation

- Organizing cloud automation with Ansible for large-scale environments
 - Ensuring scalability, reliability, and maintainability in cloud environments
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Module 18: Ansible for Network Automation

1. Introduction to Network Automation

- What is network automation and why it's needed
- Benefits of automating network configurations and tasks

2. Using Ansible for Network Configuration

- Automating network device configuration with Ansible
- Managing routers, switches, and firewalls using Ansible modules

3. Managing Network Devices with Ansible

- Interacting with network device APIs and protocols (SSH, SNMP)
- Using modules like `ios_config`, `nxos_config`, and `eos_config`

4. Network Topology Automation

- Automating the creation of network topologies
- Managing VLANs, interfaces, and routing configurations with Ansible

5. Automating Network Troubleshooting

- Using Ansible to automate network diagnostics and logging
- Troubleshooting network configurations with Ansible commands

6. Network Security Automation

- Using Ansible to configure firewall rules and VPNs
- Managing network security compliance through automation

7. Monitoring Network Devices with Ansible

- Integrating Ansible with monitoring tools like Nagios or Prometheus
- Automating the collection of network metrics and alerts

8. Best Practices for Network Automation with Ansible

- Organizing network automation playbooks and roles
 - Ensuring scalability and maintainability in network automation
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Module 19: Ansible for System Administration Automation

1. Introduction to System Administration Automation

- What tasks can be automated for system administrators
- The benefits of using Ansible for daily sysadmin tasks

2. User and Group Management

- Automating user creation, deletion, and modification
- Managing group memberships and privileges using Ansible

3. Package Management Automation

- Installing, updating, and removing software packages with Ansible
- Managing package repositories and updates

4. Service Management Automation

- Managing system services (start, stop, enable) using Ansible
- Configuring systemd units and init scripts with Ansible

5. File System and Disk Management

- Automating disk partitioning, file systems, and mounts with Ansible
- Configuring quotas and file system security with Ansible

6. Scheduled Jobs Automation

- Managing cron jobs, at jobs, and systemd timers with Ansible
- Ensuring scheduled tasks are idempotent and reliable

7. Networking Automation for System Admins

- Automating network interface configurations and DNS settings
- Managing firewalls, proxy servers, and routing

8. Security and Patch Management

- Automating system hardening and patching
- Managing security updates and compliance checks with Ansible

Module 20: Ansible Troubleshooting and Best Practices

1. Debugging Playbooks and Tasks

- Using debug and verbose modes for troubleshooting
- Common debugging strategies for resolving playbook issues

2. Handling Errors in Ansible

- Using `ignore_errors` and `failed_when` to manage task failures
- Troubleshooting connectivity and authentication issues

3. Best Practices for Writing Efficient Playbooks

- Organizing playbooks for clarity and maintainability
- Using loops, conditionals, and handlers effectively

4. Using Ansible Linting and Testing Tools

- Introduction to `ansible-lint` for checking playbook quality
- Setting up continuous integration (CI) for Ansible code testing

5. Optimizing Playbook Performance

- Techniques for reducing playbook execution time
- Managing large inventories and scaling playbooks for efficiency

6. Managing Large-Scale Infrastructure

- Best practices for handling hundreds or thousands of nodes
- Using parallelism and async execution to scale playbooks

7. Version Control for Ansible

- Using Git to manage playbook versions
- Collaboration and versioning strategies for team environments

8. Best Practices for Ansible Security

- Securing sensitive data with Ansible Vault
- Limiting access to sensitive playbooks and variables