Notes on the Windows PowerShell Scripting and Toolmaking course

Do NOT use the new “B” version of the course found in Skillpipe.

Global Knowledge has made the decision to continue using the “A” version of the course on Skillpipe. The reason for this is that the new “B” version has been gutted and reduced to a 3 day course, with far less content.

So, in order to keep the old “A” version fresh, I have updated the VMs with new Server 2016 and Windows 10 VMs, and created an updated lab guide to match that.

The lecture material will remain the same, and should be taught from the “A” version of the course, not the “B” version. Explain to the students exactly what I have mentioned above, and let them know they have full access to the “B” version of the course should they want to read through it on their own.

The new lab guide, lab files and other documents can be found on the instructor FTP site at: /instructors/Microsoft\_Product\_Line/Courseware Library/CWL55039A\_Windows PowerShell Scripting and Toolmaking

The new VMs are available to you now. Please go to LearnOnDemand and run through the labs on these new VMs before you teach the class for the first time.

In the lab guide, you will notice a new “Module 1” lab has been added, and slightly more detailed lab steps have been added to the remaining modules. These lab steps are not as detailed as a typical MOC course and were even more basic in the original class. I believe keeping the theme of the basic lab steps Don Jones originally created is appropriate for this course.

On the instructor FTP site you will also find a copy of the updated lab files that are included in the VMs. All I have done to these files is update them with the new VM names, and fixed any typos in the original versions.

Lastly, you will also find an “Intro” PPTX deck that details the VMs and where students should obtain their lab steps from.

It is VERY important that students DO NOT perform the lab steps from the skillpipe manual as they will not match the new VMs. Instead, students will find the custom lab manual PDF on the “Resources” tab once they launch the VMs in LODS.

You may also feel free to make the lab pdf file available in the Adobe Connect Files area for students to download or you may email it to them if you wish.

To give you some additional background, I had been asked by Global Knowledge to review the “B” version of the “Scripting and Toolmaking” when it was released.  They updated the course to PowerShell 5.0, but in doing so, really dumbed the course down and cut it to a 3 day class.

This is a very popular course, and I felt that taking it down to 3 days really makes it difficult to cover as much advanced scripting and also reduces our revenue on the course by 2 days. So, I told Global Knowledge we could run the course forever on the 5 day “A” version if they would let me update the VMs and rework the lab manual.  They agreed and I went ahead and made the changes.

So, the bottom line is that we will be running the “A” version of the course in perpetuity with the new VMs and custom lab manual.

There are only a few things the new “B” version has that are missing in the “A” version, such as:  PowerShell Classes, PowerShellGet and DSC.   If I have time, I could create a “Bonus” lecture and lab module that we could include instead of the day 5 Module 15 which is that “Putting it all together” giant lab. For now, I think it will be OK to leave those topics for the students to read on their own if they want to.

If you encounter any problems or errors in the lab manual, please let me know and I can update it on the fly for this and future offerings.

Mark Morgan

Sr. Instructor

Global Knowledge

[mark.morgan@globalknowledge.com](mailto:mark.morgan@globalknowledge.com)

678-525-2912