About This Course

This course walks through the process of building a custom Linux distribution from source.

- **Requirements**
  - Access to a working VirtualBox installation -OR- suitable hardware
    *We use VirtualBox to setup a system on which we build the distribution. You may use hardware if you like; however, it is important to note that console access is **required**, and therefore using cloud-based systems is likely not appropriate for this course.*

  - A PDF viewer
    The study guide for this course breaks down, explains, and enumerates the build process. It is not optional, and we strongly recommend that you read the Study Guide from start to finish before beginning this course.

What is Provided?

- **Lab Servers are not suitable for this course.**
- **Scripts and Snippets**
  Several scripts and a file containing snippets of commands are included for convenience.

What is NOT Provided?

*This is a **very** advanced topic. While some support is provided, we cannot undertake the support of attempts to build a Linux distribution which do not follow the Study Guide to the letter.*

What Will I Learn?

- A better understanding of how distributions are produced
- Understanding the role of the Linux kernel
- Knowledge of glibc and how it interacts with the kernel and userland
- Better understanding of how the various parts of a distro fit together

These Things, In Turn, Will Inform Your Ability to:

- Troubleshoot the kernel and userland binaries
- Understand performance tuning methodologies
- Building custom kernels and software packages