

Name: John Era Roldan	Date Performed: 10/10/2025
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Instructor: Engr. Robin Valenzuela	Semester and SY: 1st Sem 2025-2026

Midterm Skills Exam: Install, Configure, and Manage Log Monitoring tools

1. Objectives

Create and design a workflow that installs, configure and manage enterprise availability, performance and log monitoring tools using Ansible as an Infrastructure as Code (IaC) tool.

2. Instructions

1. Create a repository in your GitHub account and label it CPE_MIDEXAM_SURNAME.

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository interface. At the top, there's a header with the repository name 'CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN' (Public), a 'Pin' button, a 'Watch' button (0), and a 'Fork' button. Below the header, there are navigation buttons for 'main' (branch), '1 Branch', '0 Tags', and a search bar with 'Go to file'. To the right of the search bar are buttons for 'Add file', 'Code' (selected), and 'About'. The main content area shows a single commit by 'johnera98' with the message 'Initial commit' and timestamp 'd62f90d - 34 minutes ago'. Below the commit, there's a file listing for 'README.md' with the status 'Initial commit' and timestamp '34 minutes ago'. A preview of the README file content shows the text 'CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN'. On the right side of the page, there are sections for 'About' (No description), 'Readme' (Readme), 'Activity' (0 stars, 0 watch, 0 forks), 'Releases' (No releases published, Create a new release), and 'Packages' (No packages published).

2. Clone the repository and do the following:
 - 2.1. Create an Ansible playbook that does the following with an input of a config.yaml file and arranged Inventory file:

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ ls
ansible.cfg config.yaml group_vars inventory.ini README.md roles site.yml
```

- 2.2. Install and configure Elastic Stack in separate hosts (Elastic Search, Kibana, Logstash) • Install Nagios in one host

ELASTIC

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/elk/tasks$ sudo nano main.yml
```

```
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLD... x roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLD... x
GNU nano 7.2 main.yml *
---[{"name": "Ensure apt cache is up-to-date", "apt": {"update_cache": "yes"}}, {"name": "Install OpenJDK (required by Elasticsearch)", "apt": {"name": "openjdk-11-jdk", "state": "present"}}, {"name": "Add Elastic GPG key", "ansible.builtin.apt_key": {"url": "https://artifacts.elastic.co/GPG-KEY-elasticsearch", "state": "present"}}, {"name": "Add Elastic APT repository", "ansible.builtin.apt_repository": {"repo": "deb https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/8.x/apt stable main", "state": "present"}}, {"name": "Install Elasticsearch, Kibana, and Logstash", "apt": {"name": ["elasticsearch", "kibana", "logstash"], "state": "present", "update_cache": "yes"}}, {"name": "Enable and start Elasticsearch", "service": {"name": "elasticsearch", "state": "started", "enabled": true}}, {"name": "Enable and start Kibana", "service": {"name": "kibana", "state": "started", "enabled": true}}]
```

```
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/elk/tasks main.yml *
GNU nano 7.2 main.yml *
- name: Install Elasticsearch, Kibana, and Logstash
  apt:
    name:
      - elasticsearch
      - kibana
      - logstash
    state: present
    update_cache: yes

- name: Enable and start Elasticsearch
  service:
    name: elasticsearch
    state: started
    enabled: true
- name: Enable and start Kibana
  service:
    name: kibana
    state: started
    enabled: true
```

^G Help ^O Write Out ^W Where Is ^K Cut ^T Execute ^C Location
^X Exit ^R Read File ^\ Replace ^U Paste ^J Justify ^/ Go To Line

```
- name: Enable and start Logstash
  service:
    name: logstash
    state: started
    enabled: true
```

NAGIOS

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/nagios/tasks$ sudo nano main.yml
```

```
GNU nano 7.2                               main.yml
---
- name: Install required dependencies
  ansible.builtin.yum:
    name:
      - gcc
      - glibc
      - glibc-common
      - make
      - wget
      - unzip
      - httpd
      - php
      - openssl
      - openssl-devel
      - gd
      - gd-devel
      - perl
      - postfix
      - autoconf
      - automake
```

```

roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/nagios/tasks$ nano main.yml
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/nagios/tasks$ nano main.yml

GNU nano 7.2                         main.yml
state: present

- name: Download Nagios Core
  ansible.builtin.get_url:
    url: https://github.com/NagiosEnterprises/nagioscore/archive/refs/tags/nagi>
    dest: /tmp/nagios.tar.gz

- name: Extract Nagios Core
  ansible.builtin.unarchive:
    src: /tmp/nagios.tar.gz
    dest: /tmp/
    remote_src: yes

- name: Compile and install Nagios Core
  ansible.builtin.shell: |
    cd /tmp/nagioscore-nagios-4.5.5
    ./configure --with-httpd-conf=/etc/httpd/conf.d
    make all
    make install
    make install-init

  args:
    creates: /usr/local/nagios/bin/nagios

- name: Create nagiosadmin user
  ansible.builtin.shell: htpasswd -cb /usr/local/nagios/etc/htpasswd.users nagis>
  args:
    creates: /usr/local/nagios/etc/htpasswd.users

- name: Start and enable services
  ansible.builtin.systemd:
    name: "{{ item }}"
    enabled: yes
    state: started
  loop:
    - httpd
    - nagios

^G Help      ^O Write Out  ^W Where Is  ^K Cut      ^T Execute  ^C Location
^X Exit      ^R Read File ^\ Replace   ^U Paste    ^J Justify  ^/ Go To Line

```

2.3. Install Grafana,Prometheus and Influxdb in seperate hosts
 (Influxdb,Grafana,Prometheus)

2.4. Install Lamp Stack in separate hosts (Httpd + Php,Mariadb)

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/lamp/tasks$ sudo nano main.yml
```

```
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/lamp/tasks          main.yml
GNU nano 7.2
---
- name: Install Apache and PHP packages
  apt:
    name: "{{ item }}"
    state: present
    update_cache: yes
  loop: "{{ lamp.php_packages | default(['apache2','php','libapache2-mod-php','mysql-server']) }}"
  when: "'lamp_web' in group_names and ansible_os_family == 'Debian'"

- name: Ensure Apache is started and enabled
  service:
    name: apache2
    state: started
    enabled: true
  when: "'lamp_web' in group_names and ansible_os_family == 'Debian'"

- name: Install MariaDB server
  apt:
    name: mariadb-server
    state: present
```

```
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN/roles/lamp/tasks          main.yml
GNU nano 7.2
  update_cache: yes
  when: "'lamp_db' in group_names and ansible_os_family == 'Debian'"

- name: Ensure MariaDB is started and enabled
  service:
    name: mysql
    state: started
    enabled: true
  when: "'lamp_db' in group_names and ansible_os_family == 'Debian'"

- name: Secure MariaDB - Set root password
  mysql_user:
    login_user: root
    login_password: ""
    name: root
    host_all: yes
    password: "{{ lamp.mariadb_root_password | default('rootpass') }}"
    check_implicit_admin: yes
  when: "'lamp_db' in group_names and ansible_os_family == 'Debian'"
```

3. Document all your tasks using this document. Provide proofs of all the ansible playbooks codes and successful installations.

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ cat ansible.cfg
[defaults]
inventory = inventory.ini
remote_user = jroldan
host_key_checking = False
private_key_file = ~/.ssh/id_rsa
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$
```

- This file tells Ansible how to connect to my servers and where to find my roles. It sets the SSH user, points to my private key for passwordless login, disables annoying host key checks, and tells Ansible where to look for roles.

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ cat config.yaml
elk:
    elastic_version: "8.x"
    heap_size: "1g"

nagios:
    nagiosadmin_password: "johnerapogi"

lamp:
    php_packages: ["php", "libapache2-mod-php", "php-mysql"]
    mariadb_root_password: "johnerapogi"
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$
```

- This file is my control panel for software versions and settings. Instead of hardcoding package versions in my playbooks

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ cat inventory.ini
[ubuntu]
ubuntu1 ansible_host=192.168.56.118 ansible_user=roldan

[centos]
centos1 ansible_host=192.168.56.122 ansible_user=jroldan

[elk]
elk1 ansible_host=192.168.56.118 ansible_user=roldan

[nagios]
nagios1 ansible_host=192.168.56.122 ansible_user=jroldan

[lamp]
lamp_web ansible_host=192.168.56.118 ansible_user=roldan
lamp_db ansible_host=192.168.56.122 ansible_user=jroldan
[all:vars]
ansible_become=true
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$
```

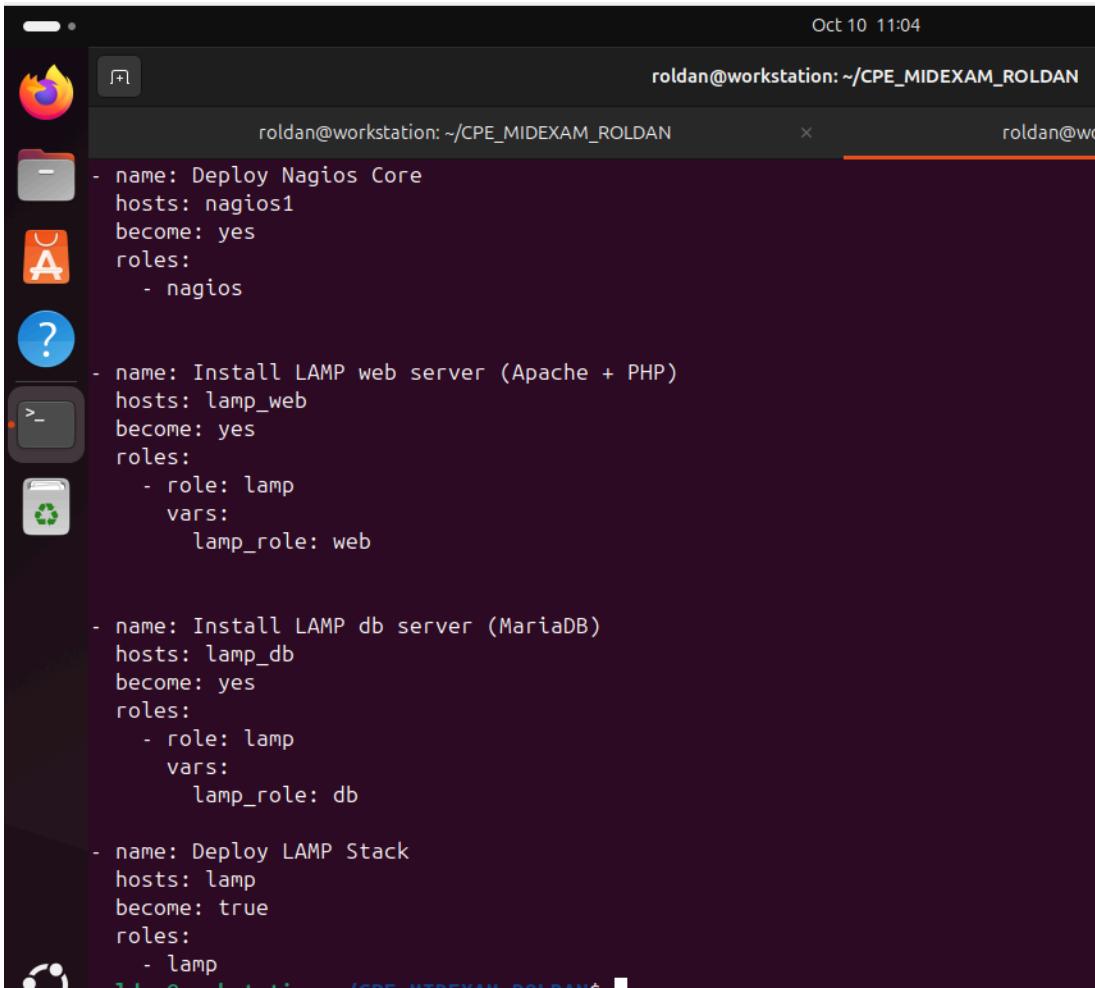
- The inventory is like an address book for Ansible. It lists all my servers and groups them by purpose to ELK servers, Nagios servers, and LAMP servers. Each server entry includes its IP and login info so Ansible knows where to send commands.

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ cat site.yml
---
- name: Load config
  hosts: localhost
  gather_facts: no
  vars_files:
    - ./config.yaml
  tasks:
    - name: include nothing (just load vars)
      debug:
        msg: "Loaded config"

- name: Install ELK stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana) on elk hosts
  hosts: elk
  become: yes
  roles:
    - role: elk

- name: Install Nagios
  hosts: nagios
  become: yes
  roles:
    - role: nagios
```

- This is the “director” of my automation. It tells Ansible which roles to run and in what order. It calls ELK, Nagios, Monitoring, and LAMP roles for the appropriate servers, making sure each group gets the right setup. Basically, it schedules all my automation tasks.



```
Oct 10 11:04
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN
roldan@workstation: ~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN

- name: Deploy Nagios Core
hosts: nagios1
become: yes
roles:
  - nagios

- name: Install LAMP web server (Apache + PHP)
hosts: lamp_web
become: yes
roles:
  - role: lamp
  vars:
    lamp_role: web

- name: Install LAMP db server (MariaDB)
hosts: lamp_db
become: yes
roles:
  - role: lamp
  vars:
    lamp_role: db

- name: Deploy LAMP Stack
hosts: lamp
become: true
roles:
  - lamp
```

4. Document the push and commit from the local repository to GitHub.
5. Finally, paste also the link of your GitHub repository in the documentation.

3. Output

ELASTIC

```
prompting/
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ ansible-playbook -i inventory.ini site.yml --limit elk --ask-become-pass

BECOME password:

PLAY [Load config] *****
skipping: no hosts matched

PLAY [Install ELK stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana) on elk hosts] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Ensure apt cache is up-to-date] *****
changed: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Install OpenJDK (required by Elasticsearch)] *****
ok: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Check Java version] *****
changed: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Fail if Java not installed properly] *****
skipping: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Add Elastic GPG key] *****
ok: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Add Elastic APT repository] *****
ok: [elk1]
```

```
[elk1]

TASK [elk : Install Elasticsearch, Kibana, and Logstash] *****
ok: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Set vm.max_map_count for Elasticsearch] *****
ok: [elk1]

TASK [elk : Ensure Elasticsearch directories owned by elasticsearch user] *****
ok: [elk1] => (item=/etc/elasticsearch)
ok: [elk1] => (item=/var/lib/elasticsearch)
ok: [elk1] => (item=/var/log/elasticsearch)

TASK [elk : Enable and start Elasticsearch] *****
```

This role installs the Elastic Stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana). It first installs dependencies, adds the Elastic GPG key, registers the APT repository correctly, installs the packages, and starts the services. Think of it as setting up a mini logging and visualization center on my Ubuntu VM.

NAGIOS

```
roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$ ansible-playbook -i inventory.ini site.yml --limit nagios --ask-become-pass
BECOME password:

PLAY [Load config] *****
skipping: no hosts matched

PLAY [Install ELK stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana) on elk hosts] *****
skipping: no hosts matched

PLAY [Install Nagios] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Install required dependencies] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Ensure Nagios etc directory exists] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Ensure Nagios var directory exists] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Download Nagios Core] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Extract Nagios Core] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Compile and install Nagios Core] *****
changed: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Create nagiosadmin user] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Create systemd service for Nagios] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Reload systemd to recognize new Nagios service] *****
ok: [nagios1]

TASK [nagios : Start and enable services] *****
ok: [nagios1] => {item=httpd}
failed: [nagios1] (item=nagios) => {"ansible_loop_var": "item", "changed": false, "item": "nagios", "msg": "Unable to start service nagios: Job for nagios.service failed because the control process exited with error code.\nSee '/systemctl status nagios.service' and '/journalctl -xeu nagios.service' for details.\n"}
PLAY RECAP *****
nagios1 : ok=10    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=1    skipped=0    rescued=0    ignored=0

roldan@workstation:~/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN$
```

This role installs Nagios from source on CentOS. It installs dependencies, downloads Nagios, compiles it, installs configuration and commands, and sets up the web interface. But when I start and enable it there's an error. I don't know why I already reload the systemd on nagios service but still there's an error.

GitHub link:

https://github.com/johnera98/CPE_MIDEXAM_ROLDAN

Conclusions: (link your conclusion from the objective)

In this midterm exam, I learned how to use Ansible to automate the setup of multiple servers for different purposes, like monitoring, logging, and web hosting. By organizing tasks into roles in ELK for logs, Nagios, and LAMP for web services. We could install, configure, and start services automatically without manually typing commands on each server. This approach saves time, reduces errors, and makes it easy to reproduce the environment on other machines. Overall, it showed how automation can turn a complex multi-server setup into a smooth, repeatable process, making managing servers much simpler and more efficient.