Certainly! In a nutshell, an **operating system (OS)** is the program that manages all other application programs in a computer. [It provides services through a defined application program interface (API) and allows users to interact with the computer hardware1](https://www.techtarget.com/whatis/definition/operating-system-OS).

Here are **five free reference links** where you can learn more about operating systems:

1. [**GeeksforGeeks Operating System Tutorial**](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/operating-systems/): This comprehensive tutorial covers basic to advanced OS concepts, including system structure, CPU scheduling, deadlock, file management, and more[2](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/operating-systems/).
2. [**GCFGlobal Operating Systems Tutorials**](https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/subjects/operating-systems/): Learn about popular operating systems like Windows, Mac OS, Linux, and Ubuntu. [Understand how OS manages memory, processes, and hardware](https://www.techtarget.com/whatis/definition/operating-system-OS)[3](https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/subjects/operating-systems/).
3. [**How-To Geek: What is an Operating System?**](https://www.howtogeek.com/361572/what-is-an-operating-system/): Dive into the core functions of an OS, including communication with hardware, input/output devices, and handling processes[4](https://www.howtogeek.com/361572/what-is-an-operating-system/).
4. [**Udemy: Operating System Fundamentals**](https://www.udemy.com/course/operating-system-fundamentals/): Explore memory management, process control, and real-time operating systems in this free course[5](https://www.udemy.com/course/operating-system-fundamentals/).
5. [**Codecademy: Fundamentals of Operating Systems**](https://www.codecademy.com/learn/fundamentals-of-operating-systems): Learn about processes, threads, and process scheduling in this beginner-friendly tutorial[6](https://www.codecademy.com/learn/fundamentals-of-operating-systems).

Happy learning! 🌟🖥️