**Operating System Overview:**

An operating system is a layer of systems software that:

* Directly has privileged access to underlying hardware
* Hides the hardware complexity
* Manages hardware on behalf of one of more applications according to some predefined policies.

**Examples of OS:**

Desktop – Microsoft Windows, Unix based – Mac OS X(BSD), Linux

Embedded – Android, iOS, Symbian

**Elements of OS:**

Abstractions – process, thread, file, memory page

Mechanisms – create, open, write.

Policies – LRU, EDF