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The student and teacher experience

In their own words, three students and one HCC instructor share their real-life experience in learning and teaching VMware technology.

Houston Community College and IT Academy Prepare Students with Real Applications for Today's Business World

Who we are

Houston Community College is an open-admission, public institution of higher education offering a high-quality, affordable education for academic advancement, workforce training, career development and lifelong learning to prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in a global and technological society. **VMware** is headquartered in Palo Alto, California, and **IT Academy** is a global, public-private partnership with institutions around the world. VMware IT Academy helps students lead in a digital future by teaching the application of VMware technology. This fosters career development, creates a pipeline of diverse talent and helps to lead a positive change around the world.

> "As we know, there can be no cloud computing without virtualization. In the virtualization space, VMware is not just a leader, but the leader!"
>
> PROFESSOR TREVOR LEE CHANDLER*

*CISSP, CCSP, CCSK, CASP CERTIFIED ETHICAL HACKER (CEH) CCNP (R&S), CCNA (R&S/VOICE/SECURITY/DATA CENTER) CLOUD+ VCA6-DCV, EMC PROFESSIONAL, BROCADE CERTIFIED VROUTER ENGINEER LPIC-1 SUSE CERTIFIED LINUX ADMINISTRATOR HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

HCC student

I decided to learn VMware because, from what I know, VMware appears to be the world leader in virtualization. Understanding VMware technology would provide me more career opportunities for more business enterprises than any other virtualization platform.

"My preference is always going to be to work on a VMware platform."

Currently, I work for a banking information systems provider. In my role, I remotely access the servers of financial institutions all over the world to install my company's banking systems. Since the beginning of virtualization, I have not encountered a single client that has used a virtualization solution other than VMware.

Having hands-on access to VMware labs is extremely beneficial. Once I began working through the labs, everything began to come together and make sense. Without the lab portion, in my opinion, the course would not be worthwhile.

Overall, it's an excellent course, provided the labs are available. Completing **this course gave me another tool in my tool belt** that will make me a sought-after candidate to future potential employers.

HCC student

Virtualization is currently playing an essential role in today's modern technology, for both enterprise and personal use. VMware® vSphere® is the perfect platform for providing a virtual environment. It has been the backbone of virtualization for cloud computing, network and hardware testing, and research in many companies. Companies like Cisco, Amazon and Arista use vSphere. Right now, there is no need to choose an alternate platform because vSphere provides the service for almost every scenario you would need.

"This class gave me a chance to become more familiar with VMware. The curriculum and syllabus were very easy to follow."

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HCC student

Last semester I learned VMware technology with VMware IT Academy using the NDG NETLAB+ virtual environment.

"Working with VMware vSphere caught my attention early on."

Focusing on vSphere data center has really been a fun and exciting way to learn. I believe this is the best way to teach students on the operational intricacies of how to install, configure and manage a vSphere virtual environment.

If I had to learn about the application in a traditional way, I don't think I would have had much interest at all. It gave me the hands-on experience needed to not only put the book into context, but also a chance to dive into the world of virtualization.

I learned that a company running vSphere data center virtualization can compress their resources into files that replicate a physical network. Once deployed and configured correctly, a vSphere data center will allow a much quicker response to changing needs and opportunities in an organization.

When I graduate in the spring, **I hope to get a job working with VMware technology** so I can put what I learned into action.

I want to add that my training in the NDG NETLAB+ learning environment has really fired me up. If they ever came up with another program that taught the process of scaling, I would be the first to sign up.

Trevor Chandler, HCC instructor

The value of teaching VMware to my students is tremendous. The need for virtualization knowledge and skills is becoming increasingly more of a requirement with the adoption of cloud computing.

I provide instruction in four levels of Linux, and I use VMware Workstation™ in each of those courses. With the hands-on intensity in which I deliver my courses, virtualization is a requirement, and the resources provided by the VMware IT Academy make this possible.

Virtualization is not my primary subject matter. However, when I was asked to teach the virtualization course that my department offers, I knew the resources that I was going to turn to. **The curriculum provided by the VMware IT Academy made my delivery of the subject matter incredibly easy.** Also, because I'm such a big proponent of vendor and industry certifications, the course materials made available through the VMware IT Academy helped me to prepare students for the VCA certification.

"That semester, 10 students attempted the certification exam, and 8 were successful in passing."

Whether I'm teaching my Cisco courses, Linux courses or cybersecurity, I require a virtualization product. For over 10 years, the choice at Houston Community College has been VMware.

Here's one of my favorite sayings:

"Anything you do to improve your talents and make yourself more valuable will get paid off in terms of appropriate real purchasing power. Anything you invest in yourself, you get back tenfold, and nobody can tax it away or steal it from you."

WARREN BUFFETT

Learn more

Discover more about how VMware IT Academy students can align with the leader by visiting us at *www.vmware.com/company/research/it-academy.html*.