

CXD-301: XenApp and XenDesktop Advanced Concepts – Optimizing the End User Experience

In this course students will learn how to optimize an environment to deliver a great user experience. Starting with user device and Citrix Receiver, the course covers advanced configuration options to optimize the delivery of their apps and desktops. Students continue with enhancing the StoreFront experience through custom branding and advanced customization options. Finally, course attendees will learn how to optimize the VDA for a better experience with printing, user data and multimedia and graphics.

Who should enroll in this course?

This course is recommended for administrators, engineers, and consultants who are interested in:

- Increasing user adoption
- Customizing user access with StoreFront
- Delivering graphics and multimedia
- Optimizing user settings for a seamless experience

Preparatory Recommendations

Before taking this course, Citrix recommends that students have:

- Intermediate understanding of XenApp and/or XenDesktop 7.x
- Intermediate understanding of StoreFront 3.x (StoreFront 2.x is adequate)
- An understanding of server, desktop and application virtualization concepts
- Familiarity with Windows Server 2012 R2

Key Skills

Upon successful completion of this course, learners are able to:

- Configure advanced customizations to StoreFront by modifying configuration files
- Configure resource filtering using keywords with StoreFront
- Configure a seamless experience for new users with Citrix Receiver
- Optimize the experience for drive mapping and file redirection
- Identify and configure the proper HDX graphics delivery method based on the user and device
- Extract HDX session information to validate graphics settings
- Configure the XenApp and XenDesktop machines to minimize bandwidth and CPU requirements
- Optimize the experience for delivering applications over a double ICA connection

Instructional Method

This course is offered as both instructor led in class training and virtual instructor led training.

Course Length

2 days

Topic Outline

Module 1: Understanding User Experience Issues

- Understanding common user issues
- Common misconfigurations that hinder adoption
- Understanding the user workflow

Module 2: Configuring a Seamless Receiver

- Deploying Receiver seamlessly
- Configuring Receiver through ADMX templates
- Configuring Single Sign On authentication
- Enabling simple upgrades for users
- Presentation of apps and desktops through PNAgent

Module 3: Customizing the StoreFront Experience

- Customizing StoreFront appearance and branding with StoreFront 3.0
- Using keywords with StoreFront
- Configuring resource filtering
- Advanced customizations through editing configuration files
- Porting customizations to NetScaler Gateway
- StoreFront launch and session timeouts

Module 4: Optimizing the Logon Process

- Profile redirection and exclusion
- Session prelaunch
- Session lingering
- Printer mapping timing

Module 5: Optimizing HDX Graphics

- Understanding graphics delivery
- Configuring the graphics modes with policies and templates
- Selecting appropriate templates by use case
- Extracting graphics HDX information for troubleshooting
- Reducing bandwidth through policies and settings
- Graphics modes for 3D applications

Module 6: Delivering Multimedia

- HDX Redirection technologies
- Server vs Client fetching and rendering
- Configuring Flash video fallback behavior
- Configuring Windows media redirection and transcoding

Module 7: Configuring for Double Hop HDX Connections

- The double hop scenario
- Drive mapping with double hop
- Client name with double hop
- Printing with double hop