CompTIA A+ Course Outline

Duration: 40-50 Hours (Global Standards)

Level: Beginner to Intermediate Delivery Mode: Online/Offline Certification: CompTIA A+

Global Exam Codes: 220-1101 and 220-1102 (Latest Versions)

Module 1: Introduction to IT and the CompTIA A+Certification

Duration: 2-3 Hours

- Introduction to IT and the Role of IT Professionals
- Overview of the CompTIA A+ Certification and Exam Structure
- Global Industry Standards and Opportunities for A+ Certified Professionals
- Key IT Terminology and Concepts
- Job Roles in IT Support: Technician, Network Specialist, Helpdesk Support

Module 2: Hardware Fundamentals

Duration: 8-10 Hours

- Overview of Computer Hardware Components
 - o CPU, RAM, Motherboards, Storage Devices (HDD, SSD), Power Supply Units
 - o Expansion Cards: Video, Audio, Network, and Storage Cards
 - o Peripheral Devices: Keyboards, Mice, Printers, Scanners
- Identifying and Installing Internal and External Hardware Devices
- Hands-on Lab: Assembling and Disassembling a Computer
- Diagnosing and Troubleshooting Hardware Problems
 - Power Issues, POST Errors, and Boot Failures
 - Identifying Faulty Components and Replacing Parts
- Hardware Maintenance Best Practices

Module 3: Operating Systems Installation and Configuration

Duration: 6-8 Hours

- Installing and Configuring Different Operating Systems
 - o Windows 10/11 (Installation, Setup, and Configuration)
 - macOS (Basic Setup and Configuration)
 - o Linux (Ubuntu Basics, Installation, and Configuration)
- Partitioning and Formatting Drives
- Windows Installation and Configuration Best Practices
- Understanding File Systems (NTFS, FAT32, exFAT)
- Installing Drivers and Windows Updates
- Configuring User Accounts and Permissions
- OS Virtualization: Overview and Setup (VirtualBox, Hyper-V)

Module 4: Networking Fundamentals

Duration: 6-8 Hours

- Introduction to Networking Concepts
 - o Types of Networks (LAN, WAN, PAN)
 - o Network Topologies: Star, Bus, Ring, Mesh
 - o OSI and TCP/IP Models
- Understanding IP Addressing and Subnetting
 - o IPv4 vs IPv6
 - o Static and Dynamic IP Addressing
- Basic Networking Devices: Routers, Switches, Hubs, and Modems
- Wired and Wireless Networking: Ethernet, Wi-Fi
 - o Configuring Wireless Routers and SSID Setup
- Network Troubleshooting
 - o Common Networking Issues: Connectivity, DNS, DHCP
 - o Network Testing Tools: Ping, Traceroute, nslookup

Module 5: Mobile Devices and Hardware Support

Duration: 4-6 Hours

- Mobile Operating Systems: Android, iOS Basics
- Configuring and Securing Mobile Devices
 - o Setting Up Mobile Email, Apps, and Wi-Fi Connections
 - Securing Mobile Devices: Screen Locks, Encryption, Remote Wipe
- Troubleshooting Mobile Device Issues
- Managing Mobile Device Settings and Application Support

Module 6: IT Security Fundamentals

Duration: 5-7 Hours

- Introduction to IT Security Concepts
 - o Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability (CIA Triad)
 - Common Security Threats: Viruses, Malware, Phishing, Ransomware
- Configuring Firewalls and Antivirus Software
- Best Practices for Securing Computers and Networks
 - o Using Password Policies, Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)
 - Installing and Configuring Security Tools
- Securing Wireless Networks: WPA, WPA2, and WPA3
- Basic Encryption Concepts and Applications

Module 7: Troubleshooting and Problem-Solving

Duration: 6-8 Hours

- Troubleshooting Methodology: Identify, Diagnose, and Resolve
- Troubleshooting Hardware Issues:
 - o Power Failures, System Freeze, Overheating
 - o RAM, CPU, and Storage Problems
- Operating System Troubleshooting:
 - o Boot Problems, Blue Screens, System Lockups
 - Reinstalling Operating Systems and Repair Options
- Networking Troubleshooting:
 - o Diagnosing Connectivity Issues (Wired and Wireless)
 - o Troubleshooting IP Configuration and DNS Problems
- Using System Tools and Utilities for Diagnostics

Module 8: Operational Procedures and Best Practices

Duration: 4-6 Hours

- IT Professional Best Practices
 - Safety and Environmental Concerns in IT Operations
 - o Proper Handling of Computer Equipment and Components
 - ESD (Electrostatic Discharge) and Equipment Care
- Customer Service Skills for IT Professionals

- o Communication, Listening, and Documentation Skills
- o Problem Resolution and Handling Difficult Customers
- Time Management and Task Prioritization for IT Support
- Documentation and Incident Reporting

Module 9: Global IT Support Practices and Professionalism

Duration: 2-3 Hours

- Global IT Support Frameworks: ITIL, Helpdesk Support
- Working in Global IT Environments: Remote and On-Site Support
- Understanding Cultural Differences in Global IT Support
- Professionalism in IT: Ethics, Continuing Education, and Certifications

Module 10: Exam Preparation and Review

Duration: 3-4 Hours

- Overview of CompTIA A+ Exam Format
- Key Exam Domains Review:
 - o Hardware, Operating Systems, Networking, Security, Troubleshooting
- Practice Exam Questions and Simulations
- Exam-taking Strategies and Tips
- Mock Exam and Q&A Session

Module 11: CompTIA A+ Certification Exam

- Final Exam: CompTIA A+ 220-1101 and 220-1102
- Post-Exam Steps and Continuing IT Career Development