

**Document Generated: 01/24/2026**

**Learning Style: On Demand**

**Technology: Cisco**

**Difficulty: Intermediate**

**Course Duration: 40 Hours**

## Understanding Cisco Data Center Foundations (DCFNDU) V1.0 - On Demand



### About this course:

The Understanding Cisco Data Center Foundations (DCFNDU) v1.0 course helps you prepare for entry-level data center roles.

In this course, you will learn the foundational knowledge and skills you need to configure Cisco data center technologies, including: networking, virtualization, SAN networking, and unified computing. You will get an introduction to Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (Cisco ACI™), automation, and cloud computing. You will get hands-on experience with configuring features on Cisco Nexus® Operating System (Cisco NX-OS) and Cisco Unified Computing System™ (Cisco UCS®).

## **Course Objective:**

After taking this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the foundations of data center networking
- Describe Cisco Nexus products and explain the basic Cisco NX-OS functionalities and tools
- Describe Layer 3 first-hop redundancy
- Describe Cisco Fabric Extender (FEX) connectivity
- Describe Ethernet port channels and virtual port channel (vPCs)
- Introduce switch virtualization, machine virtualization, and network virtualization
- Compare storage connectivity options in the data center
- Describe Fibre Channel communication between the initiator server and the target storage
- Describe Fibre Channel zone types and their uses
- Describe N-Port Virtualization (NPV) and N-Port Identifier Virtualization (NPIV)
- Describe data center Ethernet enhancements that provide a lossless fabric
- Describe Fibre Channel over Ethernet (FCoE)
- Describe data center server connectivity
- Describe Cisco UCS Manager
- Describe the purpose and advantages of application programming interfaces (APIs)
- Describe Cisco ACI
- Describe the basic concepts of cloud computing

## **Audience:**

- Data center administrators
- Data center engineers
- Systems engineers
- Server administrators
- Network managers
- Cisco integrators and partners

## **Prerequisite:**

To fully benefit from this course, you should have the following knowledge and skills:

- Good understanding of networking protocols

- Good understanding of the VMware environment
- Basic knowledge of Microsoft Windows operating systems

These are the recommended Cisco courses that may help you meet these prerequisites:

- Implementing and Administering Cisco Solutions (CCNA)
- Introducing Cisco Data Center Networking (DCICN)
- Introducing Cisco Data Center Technologies (DCICT)

## **Course Outline:**

### **Describing the Data Center Network Architectures**

Cisco Data Center Architecture Overview  
Three-Tier Network: Core, Aggregation, and Access  
Spine-and-Leaf Network  
Two-Tier Storage Network

### **Describing the Cisco Nexus Family and Cisco NX-OS Software**

Cisco Nexus Data Center Product Overview  
Cisco NX-OS Software Architecture  
Cisco NX-OS Software CLI Tools  
Cisco NX-OS Virtual Routing and Forwarding

### **Describing Layer 3 First-Hop Redundancy**

Default Gateway Redundancy  
Hot Standby Router Protocol  
Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol  
Gateway Load Balancing Protocol

### **Describing Cisco FEX**

Server Deployment Models  
Cisco FEX Technology  
Cisco FEX Traffic Forwarding  
Cisco Adapter FEX

### **Describing Port Channels and VPCs**

Ethernet Port Channels  
Virtual Port Channels  
Supported VPC Topologies

### **Describing Switch Virtualization**

Cisco Nexus Switch Basic Components  
Virtual Routing and Forwarding

Cisco Nexus 7000 Virtual Device Contexts (VDCs)  
VDC Types  
VDC Resource Allocation  
VDC Management

## **Describing Machine Virtualization**

Virtual Machines  
Hypervisor  
VM Manager

## **Describing Network Virtualization**

Overlay Network Protocols  
Virtual Extensible LAN (VXLAN) Overlay  
VXLAN Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) Ethernet VPN (EVPN) Control Plane  
VXLAN Data Plane  
Cisco Nexus 1000VE Series Virtual Switch  
VMware vSphere Virtual Switches

## **Introducing Basic Data Center Storage Concepts**

Storage Connectivity Options in the Data Center  
Fibre Channel Storage Networking  
Virtual Storage Area Network (VSAN) Configuration and Verification

## **Describing Fibre Channel Communication Between the Initiator Server and the Target Storage**

Fibre Channel Layered Model  
Fabric Login (FLOGI) Process  
Fibre Channel Flow Control

## **Describing Fibre Channel Zone Types and Their Uses**

Fibre Channel Zoning  
Zoning Configuration  
Zoning Management

## **Describing Cisco NPV Mode and NPIV**

Cisco NPV Mode  
NPIV Mode

## **Describing Data Center Ethernet Enhancements**

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Data Center Bridging  
Priority Flow Control  
Enhanced Transmission Selection

## Data Center Bridging Exchange (DCBX) Protocol Congestion Notification

### **Describing FCoE**

- Cisco Unified Fabric
- FCoE Architecture
- FCoE Initialization Protocol
- FCoE Adapters

### **Describing Cisco UCS Components**

- Physical Cisco UCS Components
- Cisco Fabric Interconnect Product Overview
- Cisco I/O Module (IOM) Product Overview
- Cisco UCS Mini
- Cisco Integrated Management Controller (IMC) Supervisor
- Cisco Intersight™

### **Describing Cisco UCS Manager**

- Cisco UCS Manager Overview
- Identity and Resource Pools for Hardware Abstraction
- Service Profiles and Service Profile Templates
- Cisco UCS Central Overview
- Cisco HyperFlex™ Overview

### **Using APIs**

- Common Programmability Protocols and Methods
- How to Choose Models and Processes

### **Describing Cisco ACI**

- Cisco ACI Overview
- Multitier Applications in Cisco ACI
- Cisco ACI Features
- VXLAN in Cisco ACI
- Unicast Traffic in Cisco ACI
- Multicast Traffic in Cisco ACI
- Cisco ACI Programmability
- Common Programming Tools and Orchestration Options

### **Describing Cloud Computing**

- Cloud Computing Overview
- Cloud Deployment Models
- Cloud Computing Services

## Credly Badge:



### **Display your Completion Badge And Get The Recognition You Deserve.**

Add a completion and readiness badge to your LinkedIn profile, Facebook page, or Twitter account to validate your professional and technical expertise. With badges issued and validated by Credly, you can:

- Let anyone verify your completion and achievement by clicking on the badge
- Display your hard work and validate your expertise
- Display each badge's details about specific skills you developed.

Badges are issued by QuickStart and verified through Credly.

[Find Out More](#) or [See List Of Badges](#)