## Pre-Course Preparation Checklist

All students should complete the following activities prior to the beginning of the course. All software that you need to install is free.

1. Install [git](https://git-scm.com/downloads) on your operating system. Git should work on all major platforms. The installation procedure may ask you a few questions during installation. In all cases, use the default settings.
2. Install [R](https://www.r-project.org/) and [RStudio](https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/). If you already have these programs installed, most decently recent versions should work fine, but now might be a good time to update if you have not done so recently.
3. Within R, install the usethis library with the command install.packages("usethis"). If you already have this library installed, update to the most recent version.
4. If you do not have a [GitHub](https://github.com/) account, please create one. GitHub accounts are free.