**Basic GitHub workflow**

1. If you already have a repository to work on, clone it.
   1. Navigate to a GitHub repository that you have access to in an internet browser of your choice.
   2. Copy the repository’s URL from the browser search bar OR click the green “Code” button and copy the URL from the interface that pops up.
   3. Open Terminal and run this command: git clone [repository URL]
2. Otherwise, create a new one on GitHub and clone it locally using the steps above.
3. Use the cd command to navigate into your new repository in Terminal.
4. Once you’re inside, run this command: git status. If you’re ever confused about what’s going on with your repository, use this command. You’ll do this a lot!
5. Create and switch to a new branch: git switch -c [branch-name].
   1. You can also create a branch without switching to it using git branch [branch-name].
   2. And you can switch to an existing branch using git switch without the -c flag.
6. Run git status again. What has changed?
7. Now make an actual change (add a file, change a file, delete a file, etc.) to your new branch.
8. Run git status again. What has changed?
9. Add your changes to a commit using git add -A.
   1. If you don’t want to add *every* change that you’ve made, you can use git add [filename(s)] without the -A flag.
10. Run git status again. What has changed? (Are you sensing a pattern?)
11. Write a descriptive message about your commit using git commit -m [“message”].
12. You know what to do.
13. Push your changes to the remote repository (on GitHub) using git push origin [branch-name].
    1. *Important note*: this will only work if you have write access to the repository in question, which you might not if you’re using someone else’s repository.