Lab Overview

React is a community darling for many very good reasons. One of those reasons is that each iterative release has come with robust documentation and tutorials to onboard new developers. Because of this, the official React reference will be our textbook for this course. In this lab, we will set up our local machine for React development.

Instructions

Part A - Editor

To get started, we will use the documentation to ensure that our local environment is set up for success. Follow the steps below on your local computer to get set up for creating Frontend with React.

1. Head to: https://react.dev/learn/editor-setup
2. Review the recommended editors (under "Your Editor") and select what you will use. I personally use VS Code and would highly recommend it. Vim would be a close second and is preferable on a Mac OS or Linux-based OS (It is included as "vi").
3. Install these extensions at minimum:
    a. ESLint
    b. Prettier
4. If you are using VS Code, configure your IDE to format on save:
    a. Press CTRL/CMD + SHIFT + P.
    b. Type "settings"
    c. Hit Enter
    d. In the search bar, type "format on save"
    e. Be sure the "format on save" option is ticked!
5. Download this HTML file: https://gist.githubusercontent.com/gaearon/0275b1e1518599bbeafcde4722e79ed1/raw/db72dcbf3384ee1708c4a07d3be79860db04bff0/example.html
    a. You may need to right-click and "Save Link as" or "Save Target As" or copy the HTML into a new text document within your chosen editor.
6. Open example.html in your configured editor. Show it to Professor Reed for full credit.

Part B - Other React Developer Tools

1. If you already have node.js installed, skip down to step 5
2. Navigate to https://nodejs.org/
3. Find the most recent installer for your operating system
4. Follow the on-screen prompts to install
5. Once node.js is successfully installed, check the install:
    a. Open a terminal window
    b. Type `npm` and hit enter (this will verify the version we have installed. If you receive errors here stop and ask Professor Reed for help)
6. Next, we will install Yarn. From the Yarn website: "Yarn is a package manager for your code. It allows you to use and share (e.g. JavaScript) code with other developers from around the world. Yarn does this quickly, securely, and reliably so you don't ever have to worry." Thankfully, Yarn can be installed with npm – a package manager that was installed with node.js.
    a. Open a terminal window.
    b. Run `npm install --global yarn`
7. Next, we will install some developer tools to make our time with React more pleasant.
    a. Open a terminal window.
    b. Run `yarn global add react-devtools` to install the yarn tools
    c. Run `npm install -g react-devtools`
    d. Don't close your terminal!
8. Take a screenshot of your terminal and your code editor with example.html open and turn those into the dropbox.