Welcome to your Gitlab enabled desktop. On this desktop you should see a shortcut to Gitlab. Just double-click this shortcut and you will be automatically logged into Gitlab using the email associated with this desktop. If the link does not work, or if you are taken to a login screen but not logged in automatically, you will need to have your Cognizant email address associated with your lab login.

If you have never logged into Gitlab before you should "Create a project". It's best to use a single word with all lower-case characters for the project name (e.g. myproject or project01). If you would like to see all your existing projects, select Menu > Projects.

Once a project is created you can use Git via the command line to clone content to your student desktop, make changes, and commit those changes back to Gitlab when you are done.

The typical Git workflow is as follows:

1.) Create a project using the GUI (e.g. project01).

2.) In the web GUI, go to the project you just created (or any of your projects) and click on the Clone drop down.

3.) Click the "Copy URL" icon to copy the URL of your project.

4.) Minimize (or close) Chrome and open a CMD window.

5.) In the CMD window, type "git config –global user.name " and then your Cognizant email to associate your current desktop session with you Gitlab account. If this is an ILT desktop you will only need to do this one time when you first log in. If this is an On Demand desktop you will need to enter this command every time you log back into a fresh desktop.

6.) Next type "git clone " then paste the URL you copied in step 3, and press Enter. You will see a message letting you know the clone was successful. The repository clone will be in a folder with the same name as your project.

7.) Change directory into the folder named after your project and create new files or modify existing files.

8.) When you are ready to commit your changes type "git commit -a -m " and \*in quotes\* add a label or message.

For example:

git commit -m "My updates for Tuesday"

(Note: you will get an error message if you do not provide a commit message.)

9.) Lastly, push changes to GitLab by typing "git push". If this is an On Demand desktop be sure to push your changes before closing the lab window. If this is an ILT desktop your changes will persist between logins. However, be sure to push all changes to Gitlab before your ILT session closes.

10.) You can check in the Gitlab web GUI that your changes are on the GitLab server.

For more information on using git see https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/gitlab-basics/start-using-git.html