CSE 210 – Week 1

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What is version control and why is it important?

Version control, also known as VCS, allows changes made by individuals or teams to be tracked and synced. This means that when one person makes an alteration to a piece of code, everyone connected to that code can automatically see the changes and who made them. This is important because it keeps the editing process of projects and folders clean and organized, allowing all team members to clearly understand what changes have been made and stay “in the loop.”

For example, within a development team, you might be given the task of creating a piece of code to analyze customer data. Each team member would be assigned a specific part of the project to code on their own computer. They would then comment, commit, and sync their files to GitHub, where everyone could view their work. Through VCS, team members can access and review each other’s code to better understand how it works, or make small edits so the overall program runs more smoothly. Some team members might use commands like *git clone* to copy parts of another program’s code, or *git add* to make sure all team members are aware of changes and to keep a detailed record of the work.

When used correctly, VCS helps teams code in a cleaner and more organized way, making projects run smoother and faster.