NPM & MODULES

What is NPM?

NPM helps you manage Node.js modules

You can think of a node module as being the same as a JavaScript library (like jQuery)

Node.js has some default modules which you can use without any installation (e.g. the HTTP module, or the FS module)

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To use a module in your project, you need to use the require() function with the name of the module

The syntax of importing a module is different in different Module Definition Specifications (for example, CommonJS vs AMD)
I'll explain more about this later on ...

NPM & MODULES

www.npmjs.com has thousands of free packages (aka: modules) for you to download and use in your applications
When you install Node.js to your computer, you will also have installed the NPM program

This means NPM is ready to run

When you install a NPM module, it will contain all the files you need for that module

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Downloading a NPM package is very easy

You just need to open your terminal and tell NPM to download the package you want

npm install express

NPM creates a folder named "node_modules", where the package will be placed

Once the package is installed, then "Bobs your Uncle" – it is ready to use