

Course Workflow

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Week-by-week rhythm of the course.

Chapter 1

At a glance (diagram)

Chapter 2

0) Open your Project

Always begin inside your course **RStudio Project** (open the `.Rproj`). Projects keep paths stable and reproducible.

Chapter 3

1) Update the package each week

```
pak::pak("SIM-Lab-SIUE/mccoursepack") # get latest version  
library(mccoursepack) # load for this session
```

If a render fails with Quarto/TinyTeX errors, you can re-run:

```
mccourse_setup() # safe anytime; only installs missing pieces
```

Chapter 4

2) Pull this week's scaffold

```
list_weeks("mc451")          # or "mc501" to see available weeks  
download_week("mc451", N, dest = ".")  # replace N with week number  
open_week(N, dest = ".")        # optional: opens folder
```

This creates `./week_0N/`. Open the `.qmd` inside and click **Render** (PDF or HTML).

Chapter 5

3) Write your journal entry

At the end of each week, add a dated chapter to your **journal book**:

```
setwd("journal")                      # go inside journal folder  
source("scripts/new_journal_entry.R")
```

This creates `entries/ YYYY-MM-DD .qmd` with three prompts. **Answer exactly one**, staying in your word range:

- **MC 451:** 250-300 words
- **MC 501:** 450-500 words

Then render the journal:

```
quarto render
```

Outputs appear under `journal/_book/`.

Chapter 6

4) Submit your work (GitHub)

Use RStudio's **Git pane** or the command line. Each week:

1. **Pull** to sync with GitHub
2. **Stage** the files you changed
3. **Commit** with a short message
4. **Push** to GitHub

Command line:

```
git pull  
git add -A  
git commit -m "Week N journal + assignment"  
git push
```

- **Journal note:** when you add a new entry, commit **both** the new chapter file and `journal/_quarto.yml`.
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Chapter 7

Quick checklist (each week)

- Open the Project
 - Update package (pak::pak("SIM-Lab-SIUE/mccoursepack"))
 - download_week("mc451", N, dest = ".")
 - Do the assignment + add journal entry
 - Render to PDF/HTML (and render the journal book)
 - Stage → Commit → Push to GitHub
-

i Maintainers only

If you're editing the documentation site (`site/`):

```
quarto preview site      # live preview  
git add -A  
git commit -m "docs: expand troubleshooting & reference"  
git push
```

GitHub Actions will render and deploy to Pages automatically.