Installing Visual Studio Code (VS Code)
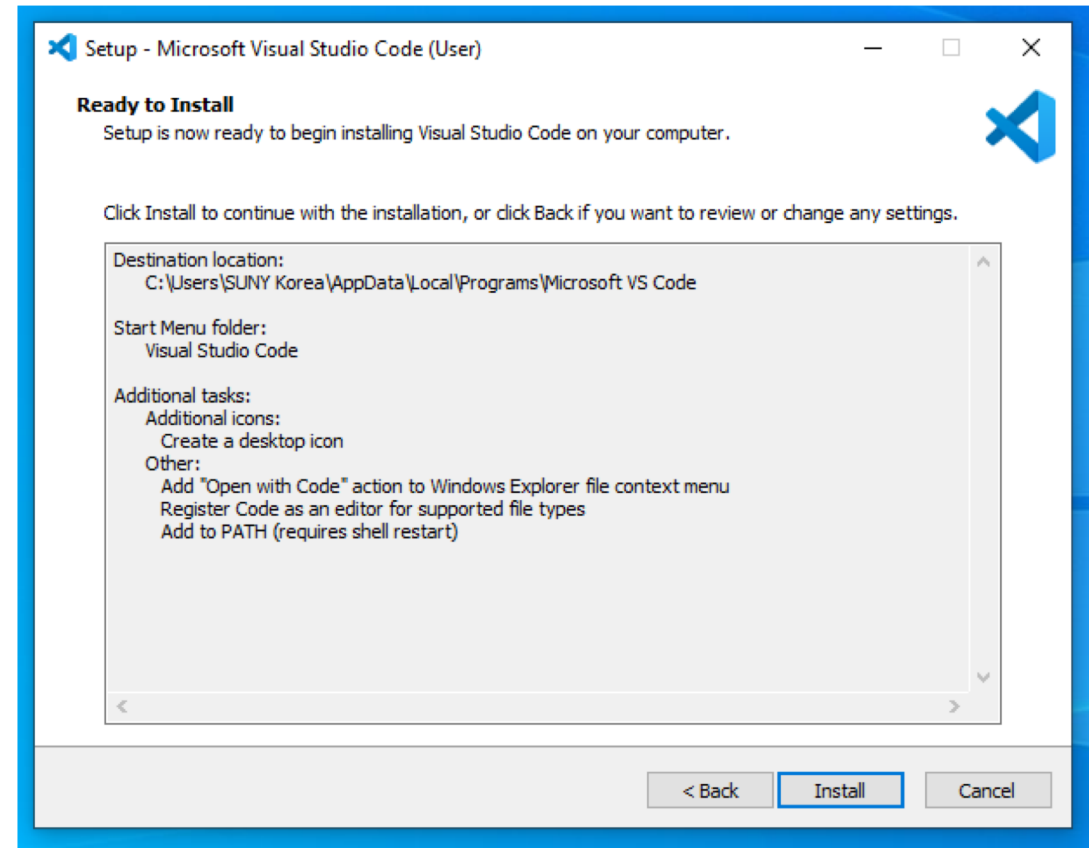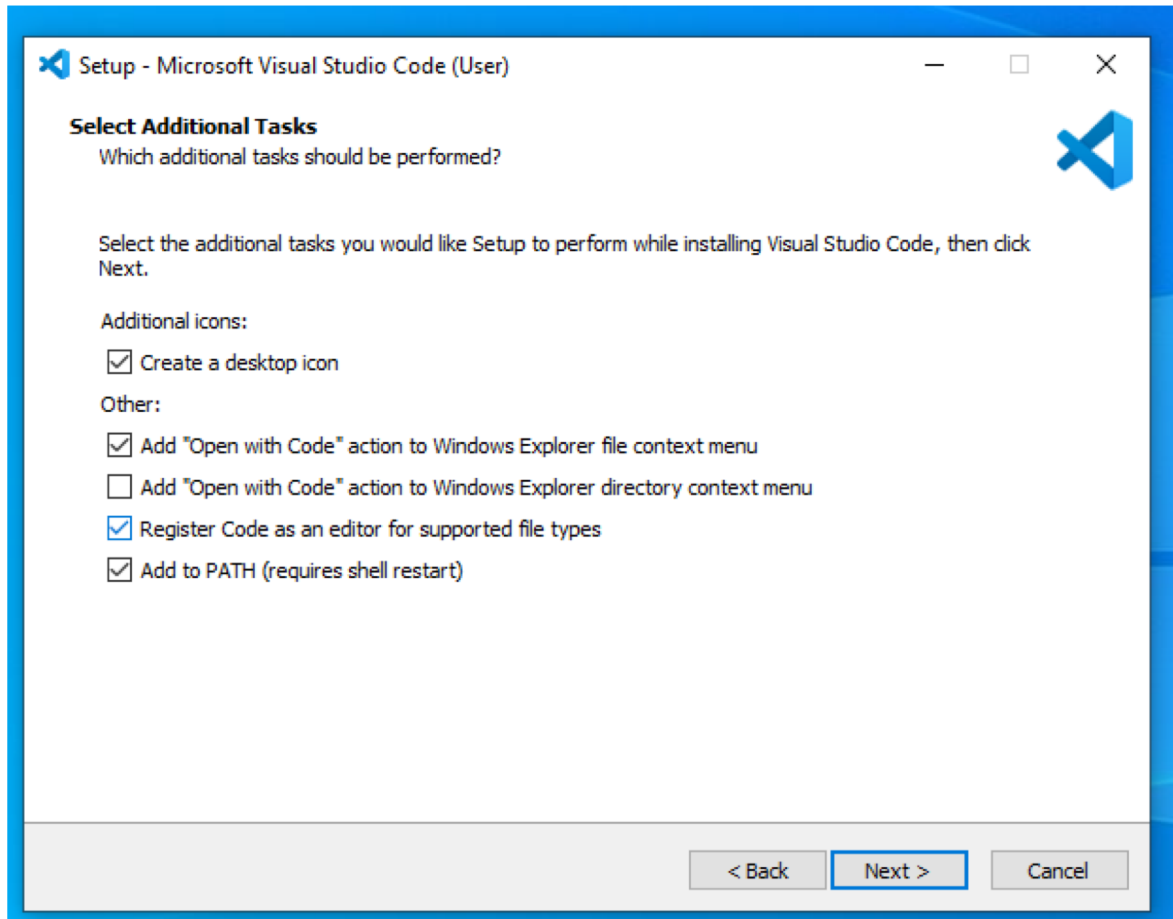
The VS Code IDE

In this course, we will use an integrated development environment (IDE) called Visual Studio Code (VS Code)

VS Code is a tool used by professional software developers
◦ Good tool for beginning programmers to use
◦ Go to https://code.visualstudio.com/ to download and install

The next slides have a walkthrough of important steps of the process, though the screens may look a little different on your computer. The screenshots are taken on a Windows machine, though it will be similar on the Mac. There is a summary and video walkthrough for the Mac at the end.

VS Code Install (Windows)
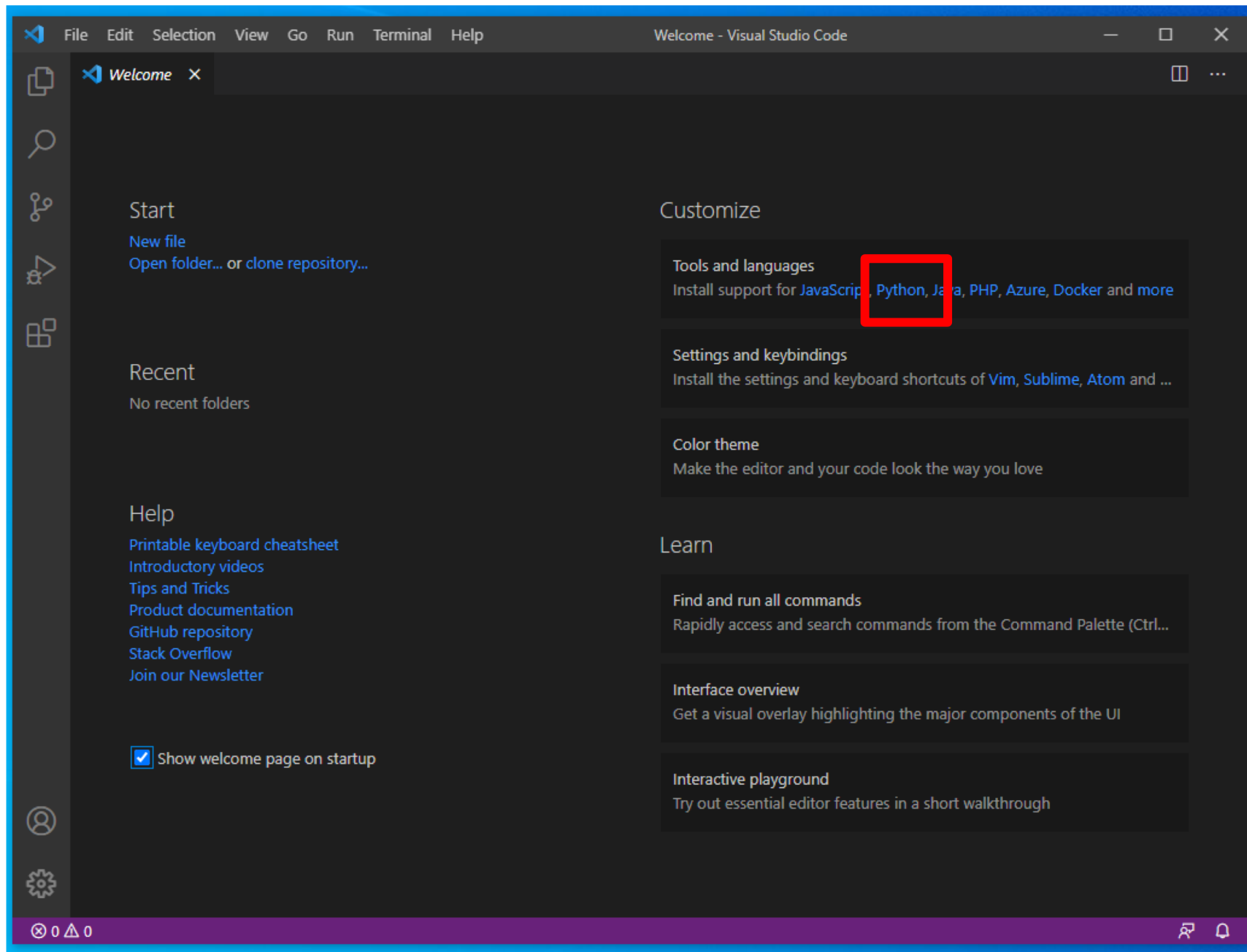
VS Code Installation on Mac

1. Go to https://code.visualstudio.com/ to download and install the free **Visual Studio Code** app

2. Now, go to the Applications folder and start **Visual Studio Code.app**. You might want to put it on the dock.

Video tutorial at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJaBHGKHv9A&t=54s
(start watching around ~0:54 seconds until -> 1:45)
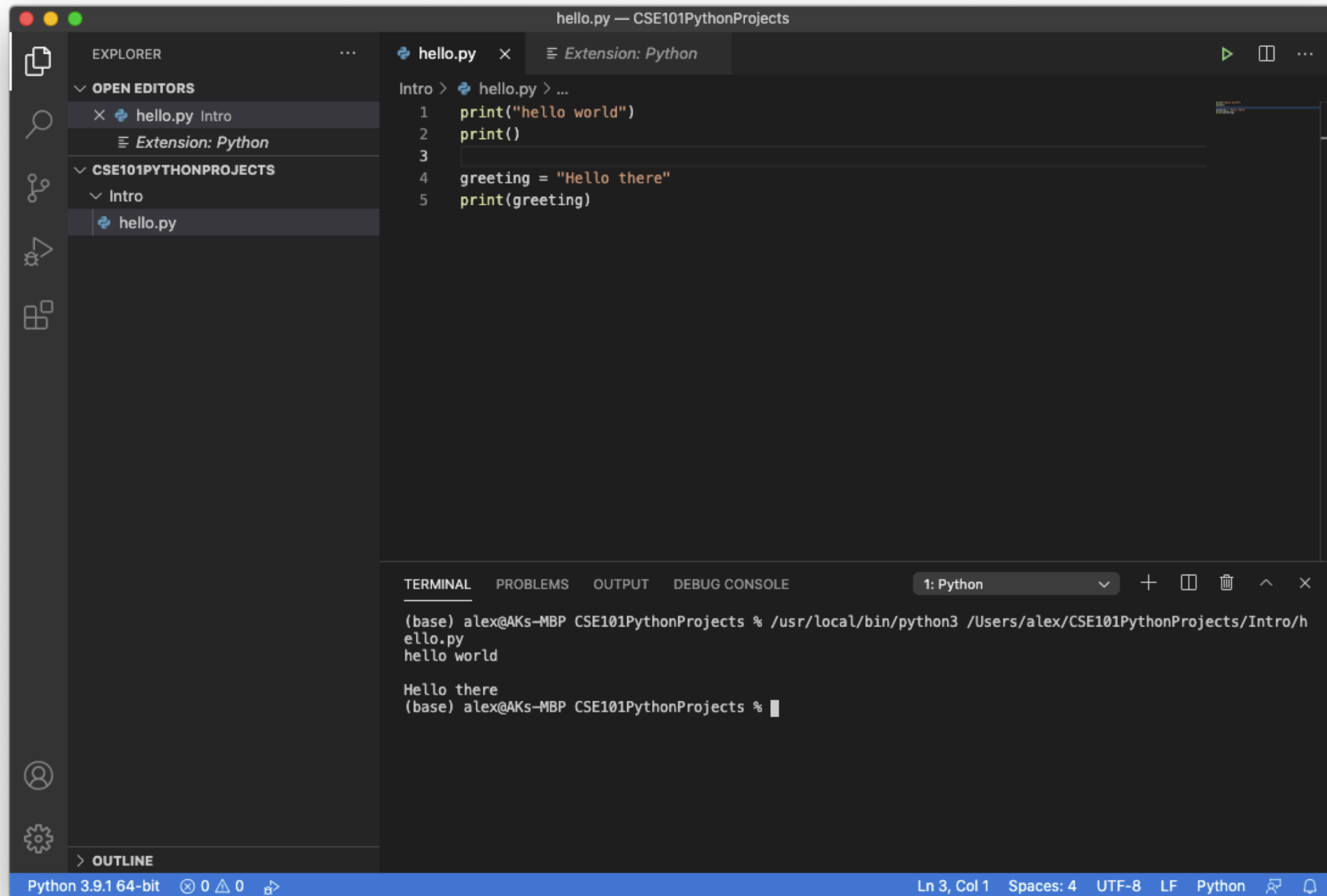
Running and initial VS Code configuration

- Click on "Python" and wait a minute for VS Code to install Python support

VS Code Basics

VS Code IDE

VS Code basics

To create and run a stand-alone Python program:

1. Start VS Code and press the "Open Folder" link.
2. Pick a folder that you will use for CSE 101 projects (or create a new folder for this)
3. Select File Menu > New File and enter the name of the file for the source code (e.g., "test.py" – the file needs to end with a ".py" for Python)
4. Write your program
5. When you are ready to run, go to Run Menu > Run (may say "Run without debugging")

You can also click the green triangle on the top-right corner of the screen to run your program.