Why GitHub for technical writers?

GitHub is a web-based interface that uses open-source version control software that allows users to make changes to projects and collaborate with one another to edit their work.

What can GitHub do?

- Upload or create your project in a remote hosting environment called a repository.
- Multiple team members can collaborate on the same project.
- GitHub keeps track of the changes and allows version control.
- Prevents loss of data.
- Allows you to revert back to the previous version.

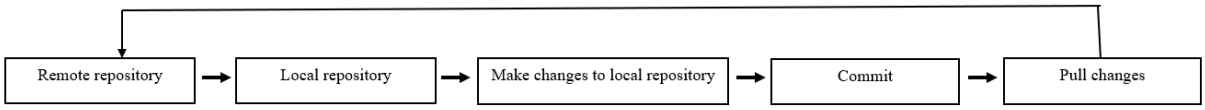
Commonly used terms:

1. **PUSH -** To send the changes and edits you have done
2. **COMMIT -** To save the changes on record to the repository
3. **REVERT -** To go back to a previous version
4. **PULL REQUEST (PR) -** A permission to make changes to a branch and allow it to be merged with another one so that collaborators can discuss and review.
5. **MERGE -** To allow a commit to be pulled in from one branch to other, and deployed on to a live site.
6. **REPOSITORY -** A remote hosting location to upload your project and files.

How does it work?

1. Upload your project to the repository.
2. Team members open an issue.
3. Create a new branch from the most recent version of the main branch to avoid conflicts.

4. Add commits showcasing your edits and changes.
5. Open a pull request to preview changes.
6. Preview the changes on a test version and approve the change to merge it into a main branch.



The life cycle of GitHub.

Why to use it?

- Allow for collaboration.
- Multiple writers can work simultaneously on the same document.
- SME can review the document, request updates and changes.
- Team members can review the documents and add their own changes without worrying about loss of data.
- Version control prevents any unauthorized changes to the document.
- Writes can revert back to previous work if they require it.
- Works as a robust online portfolio.
- Vast community to interact with.

Note to the reader