Python Course Setup

# Python Setup

This section will guide you through the process of installing Python.

1. Download the Python installer from <https://www.python.org/downloads/>
2. Run the installer and select to install the launcher for All Users and to add Python 3.10 to PATH.
3. Install, once installed, you will be able to program and run Python scripts on your computer.

# VS Code Setup

We will use VS Code as our code editor for this course. If you haven’t used a code editor before, it’s essentially like Word but for programming. We are using VS Code as it provides a lot of functionality whilst still being lightweight (it doesn’t use too many computer resources). It is also highly customisable using various extensions; however, we won’t touch on this too much in this course.

1. Download the VS Code Installer from here: <https://code.visualstudio.com/>
2. Select to Register Code as an Editor and Add to Path. Optionally you can select to create a desktop icon and to add “Open with Code” to Explorer context menus as well.
3. Install, once installed, you should be able to access VSCode by searching for it in your installed programs.
4. Open VSCode and on the left-hand toolbar, click on Extensions (Ctrl+Shift+X).
5. Search for and install the Python, Pylance and Jupyter Extensions. Note these should all be made by Microsoft.