

While you may also do the same things with a GUI version of Git, here, we assume you will be using your terminal:

**Your very first step (or if you mess up or if you can't find the folder)** Assuming that you do not have a folder called “550400.git” in your computer, you can type in your command line:

```
cd ~/
git clone http://cis.jhu.edu/~nhlee/550400.git
```

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This creates a folder in your computer that is called “550400.git” and populates it afresh with the contents of the course folder.

**Incremental update step** Assuming that you did not mess up your git folder by, for example, deleting or modifying things, do:

```
cd ~/550400.git
git reset --hard HEAD
git pull origin master
```

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This fetches new materials from the course git folder and merge them into your current git folder.

**Do & Don't** Use the course folder as if it is a bag of precious templates or references. In particular, unless you are comfortable with Git, I would like to discourage (but not necessarily forbid) you from deleting, editing, adding things in the course folder and from changing the course folder name.

Keep the folder relatively “clean”, and copy things from it to another folder. Particularly, be very careful when dragging things from the course folder to another folder in your computer. In some computer, drag-and-drop means, in effect, cut-and-paste.

**Alternative** If you rather use the usual but inefficient routine to update your course folder, feel free to visit:

<http://cis.jhu.edu/~nhlee/550400.html/>

However, this alternative is not supported officially. In particular, be warned that this html folder may contain files that you do not need to care and sometimes, it may even contain a non-official version. In other words, use it at your own risk.