Guided Tour to CrewAI 'kickstartcrew'

Pre-Conditions

- uv is installed
- tree is installed
- python@3.13 (python3 version 3.13) is installed
- At least Ollama or LM-Studio is installed
- An LLM is locally downloaded (**LM-Studio**: google/gemma-3-8b | **Ollama**: gemma:7b)

Workflow

Create a project directory

```
mkdir -p myprojects/crewai-kickstart
cd myprojects/crewai-kickstart
```

Setup a python virtual environment

```
uv venv .vset --python 3.13
# macOS: source .vset/bin/activate  # windows: .\.vset\Skripts\activate
```

Prepare CrewAI to work

```
uv pip install crewai
uv tool list
```

Shows something like:

```
crewai v0.134.0
- crewai
```

Create now the project for the kickstart crew.

```
crewai create crew kickstartcrew
```

When asked to select an LLM provider

- for Ollama → Select `ollama` and for the model select `ollama3.1`
- for LM-Studio → Select `openai`, for the model select `o1-mini` and enter for the api key `asdf`

When the project creation is finished execute:

```
tree      # -> prints the created kickstartcrew project structure
```

Now disable the virtual environment and delete it with

```
deactivate
rm -R .vset
cd kickstartcrew
```

Only for Ollama!

At directory `kickstartcrew` edit the content of `.env` and replace the model

```
MODEL=ollama/gemma:7b
API_BASE=http://localhost:11434
```

End of Ollama only section.

Only for LM-Studio!

At directory `kickstartcrew` edit the content of `.env` and replace all with

```
BASE_URL=http://127.0.0.1:1234/v1
API_KEY=asdf
MODEL=google/gemma-3-8b
```

Open file `src/kickstartcrew/crew.py` and add the lines at the top section:

```
from crewai.llm import LLM
import os
from dotenv import load_dotenv
```

At the class Kickstartcrew add behind agents and tasks like

```
        agents: List[BaseAgent]
```

```
        tasks: List[Task]

        def __init__(self):
           # configure LLM for LM-Studio
           self.llm = LLM(
               model="openai/" + os.getenv("MODEL"),  # "google/gemma-3-8b"
               base_url=os.getenv("BASE_URL"),  # "http://127.0.0.1:1234/v1"
               api_key=os.getenv("API_KEY"),  # "asdf"
               temperature=0.7
           )
```

At the configuration for researcher and reporting_agent add a ',' to the last line and then add an llm configuration with `llm=self.llm` to the end of the block

```
    return Agent(
        .. , # don´t forget to add a ',' here!
        llm=self.llm
    )
```

End of LM-Studio only section.

At directory `myprojects/crewai-kickstart/kickstartcrew` execute the commands

```
uv venv .venv --python 3.13
# macOS: source .venv/bin/activate  # windows: .\.venv\Skripts\activate
uv add "python-dotenv>=1.0.0"
uv sync --active
```

Check the Ollama or LM-Studio server is prepared and the LLM (here LM-Studio: google/gemma-3-8b | Ollama: ollama/gemma:7b) is listed at the directory of all local available models.

Execute from terminal at `/myprojects/crewai-kickstart/kickstartcrew`

```
crewai install
crewai run
```

Watch and enjoy the result!