

Intro to Open Source: Syllabus

January 12, 2020 / 9:00 PM - 10:00PM EST

Important Links

[Workshop Hackpack](#)

Pre-workshop checklist, and resources to explore during and after the workshop.

[Hack the North 2020++ Event Schedule](#)

Check this out to stay up-to-date on activities, workshops, and other key happenings this weekend.

Motivator

Ever wondered how massive projects like React and Node get maintained? Don't know how to start growing your personal wall of green squares? Well, your search for answers stops right here. In this workshop, we'll be going through all the basic aspects of Open Source Software on Github; you'll learn how to contribute to large projects, get over the initial intimidation of a big codebase, and get equipped with all the tools you need to become a world-class open sourcerer!

Prerequisite Knowledge

In order to get the most out of this workshop you should be comfortable with the following concepts:

- Using a computer. I'm not joking; Open Source can truly be done by anyone, anywhere—even if you aren't a programmer, this workshop is for you!

Learning Outcomes

This is what you will walk away from the workshop able to do:

- Contribute to massive codebases from the beginning
- Know how to participate in structured conversations
- Understand what to look for in open source repositories to be a great community member
- How to use Github!

Timeline (1 hour)

Time	Module	Description
5 min.	Workshop Introduction	Going through what the workshop will entail, the breakdown of all the different necessities, and introducing myself!
10 min.	Introduction to Open Source Programming	What the heck even is OSS? It can feel like a buzzword at times, but what does the term even really mean?
20 min.	Introduction to Git	How do projects structure and keep track of their changes? Git is by far one of the most valuable tools to know—not just in OSS contexts, but in software engineering in general! We won't be going through the specific commands used, but we'll be touching on the basic features of commits, branching, and merging.
20 min.	Introduction to GitHub	Git is great, but this is an Open Source workshop, not merely a Source Control one. In this section, we'll be going through all the big pieces of Github and how they relate to the community, development, and social aspects of Open Source Development by studying and breaking down one of the largest codebases on the platform right now.
10 min.	Making your first Contributions!	By this point, we'll have gone through nearly everything you need to know about the cycle of OSS development. We'll be going through the flow of things you should do as a budding maintainer & contributor, and then we'll let you put your hands on the wheel, using all of the techniques you learned in the last two sections to make your first fork, issue, and Pull Request onto a GitHub Repository!
5 min.	Closing Remarks	Summarizing what we've all learned, and answering any last-minute questions.