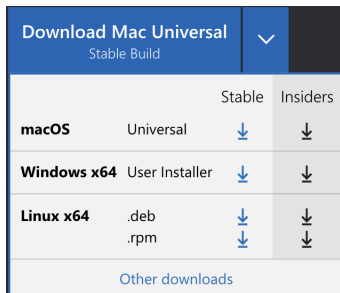


Visual Studio Code Setup

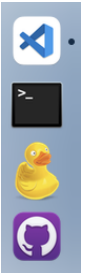
CS 290 ~ Winter 2022

Install VS Code



Navigate to the [Visual Studio Code](https://code.visualstudio.com/) site. Your platform will be detected automatically and show in the blue Download button. Use the down arrow to view the list of options, and click the Stable download icon to launch the installation for your platform.

Once installation is complete, add the VS Code application icon to your Mac Dock or Windows Taskbar.



Choose a Theme and Font Size

The VS Code app comes with a default dark theme, which may or may not be easy on your eyes. If you prefer other levels of contrast and color combinations, try out the built-in themes and/or install and enable others via the Extensions menu. Screenshots in this tutorial are using the *Gruvbox Concoctis Light Medium theme* from [wheredoesyourmindgo](https://www.wheredoesyourmindgo.com/).

1. From the **Code > Preferences > Color Theme** menu.
Select from the **Dark**, **Light**, and **High-Contrast** themes listed. Leave on the one you like the best.
2. From the **Code > Settings** menu, search for "font size" and change it to **14** (or a size that suits your eyes best).
3. From the **Settings** menu, search for "auto save" and set the **afterDelay** feature to **1000** (or whatever timing you prefer).
4. Come back to this area later to update text-editing conventions that you prefer, such as syntax highlighting, folding, hover/hints, tab size, word-wrap, disable minimap, etc.

Learn more: [VS Code shortcuts and tricks that I wish I knew sooner](#)

Add Extensions

Click the Extensions icon on the left menu bar and add the following extensions:



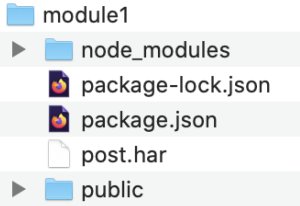
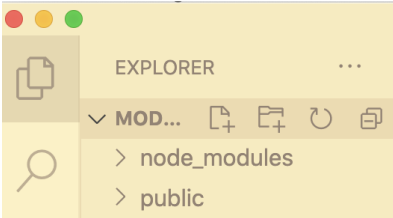
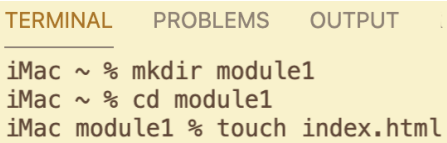
1. A theme that improves readability (optional)
2. MongoDB for VS Code



3. REST Client

Create a workspace

You can create folders and files for a project (called a Workspace) in a variety of ways:

From the Mac Finder or Windows Explorer on your hard drive.	Inside VS Code's File Explorer pane.	From the terminal (see below).
<div></div> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Make a folder in the Finder/Explorer window.2. Drag the folder to the VS Code icon to open the Workspace.3. Use the +file icon to add files to the Workspace folder.4. Click the file from the File Explorer pane to edit and save.	<div></div> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Code → New Window → Open Folder.2. Navigate to the Documents folder on your hard drive and create a course folder → module folder.3. Use the +file icon to add files to the Workspace folder.4. Click the file from the File Explorer pane to edit and save.	<div></div> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Terminal > New Terminal.2. Type mkdir foldername.3. Type cd foldername to change to that new directory/folder.4. Type touch filename.html to create a file.5. Click the file from the File Explorer pane to edit and save.

Add default HTML boilerplate code

When making simple web pages, web developers often need to quickly add default code, such as the HTML boilerplate tags. In VS Code, this code can quickly be added to an .html file using this method:

1. Add a new file, such as *index.html*, to a Workspace folder using one of the methods above. It will open automatically.
2. Type **!** to activate the Emmet options. Choose the **!** option from the list, and, like magic, this code is added. -->
3. You'll learn about that code later.

```
<> index.html x
Users > pamvanlonden > module1 > <> index.ht
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="UTF-8">
5   <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Comp
6   <meta name="viewport" conte
7   <title>Document</title>
8 </head>
9 <body>
10
11 </body>
12 </html>
```

View Pages

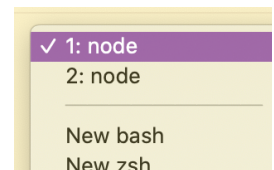
To see the output of HTML and JavaScript pages, drag the file from the File Explorer to a browser tab. When using Node.js, the app/site will launch automatically in a browser window when the start command is activated. You'll learn more about that later.

Access and use the Terminal

The terminal allows you to provide **Node commands**, such as to install libraries/dependencies, run your apps/sites, view console log output, debug problems, and run multiple terminals at once.

Terminal windows in VS Code can be accessed in five ways:

1. From the **Terminal** menu → **New Terminal**.
2. With the Control-tilde `^ ~` keystroke.
3. By dragging up from the bottom of a file editing window.
4. For workspaces using a *frontend* and a *backend* framework, each can have its own terminal, accessed from either of these options:
 - a. From the File Explorer: right-click on the *backend* folder and choose **Open in Integrated Terminal**. Right-click on the *frontend* folder and choose **Open in Integrated Terminal**.
 - b. Select the *backend* folder and from the Terminal window, click the **+** icon. Select the *frontend* folder and from the Terminal window, click the **+** icon. Use the split-screen icon to view them side by side.
 - c. Switch between the two from the dropdown or side-pane menu.
5. Close the running terminals at the end of each working session using **Ctrl-c**, they don't interfere with the next day's work.



SO

The Terminal's **Problems** tab provides the number of coding issues in the tab and lists them below. Click it to view their line numbers.



The Terminal's **Debug Console** tab automatically provides support for JavaScript and Node. To use it:

1. Click the **Run Debug** icon on the left menu.
2. Click the **Run and Debug** button.
3. Choose the language (Node) from the dropdown list.
4. View the Debug Console in the Terminal. If the debug messages are too vague, consider adding related extensions or methods: [Debugging in VS Code](#) and [How to debug Node.js apps in Visual Studio Code](#).

Share your Code in Zoom office hours

When sharing your Code during Zoom office hours, set up your screen so the instructor or TA can quickly assess your output and code:

1. Place the browser window (localhost) on the *left* 1/3 of the screen.
2. Place the VSCode window showing your code on the *right* 2/3 of the screen.
3. From the **Code > Settings** menu, search for "font size" and change it to **14**, or use `⌘+ (Mac)` or `Ctrl+ (Win)` to increase the font size from the keyboard.

