Initial Set Up Instructions
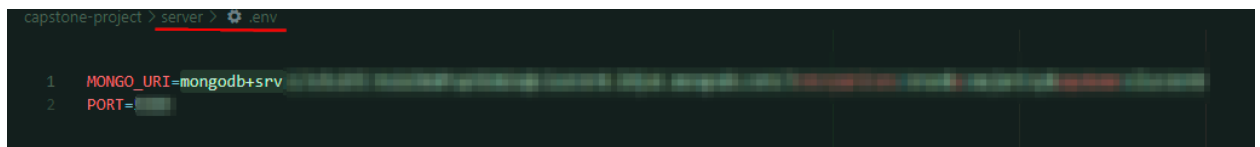
1.) First clone the repository by running git clone <repository-url> in the terminal of VS Code or when opening VS code on the "Welcome" tab select "Clone Git Repository" and then paste <repository-url> and select a destination directory to save it to on your host machine. In the last window make sure you select "Add to Workspace" so it's easier.

2.) Once cloned, in the VS Code terminal, navigate into the project directory using "cd capstone-project" (you might have to cd a few times depending on your current working directory).

3.) Create a ".env" file in **both** client and server folders it can stay blank for this current step.

4.) In the server/.env file, create a variable for MONGO_URI with the database connection string (given to you securely) and the PORT. (The client/.env will stay blank for now).

5.) After setting up the .env files, right click on the "client" folder and select "Open in Integrated Terminal" run the command "npm install" to install the necessary dependencies. Do the exact same for the "server" folder.

   Do not run npm install in the root directory, as that would create a new package.json file, which is unnecessary and would interfere with the existing structure.

6.) To test the front end, cd into the client directory and run "npm start" it should start up a basic landing page in your browser. After verifying that it works, CTRL+C in the terminal and select Y to batch it (aka kill it).

7.) To test the backend and the MongoDB connection, cd into the server directory and in the terminal run "node src/index.js" if it works properly you should see a message in the terminal that says MongoDB connected and what port its running on.