

# IT614

## Getting ready for the class

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### THINGS TO DO BEFORE CLASS STARTS:

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#### 1. Editor and browsers for hands-on practice

As in programming (and in mathematics) hands-on practicing is very important here as well. No amount of reading will help you unless you practice hands-on (in addition to reading). Fortunately, in this course, you don't need any special software (no compiler or special interpreter is needed). You just need a good text editor and a browser.

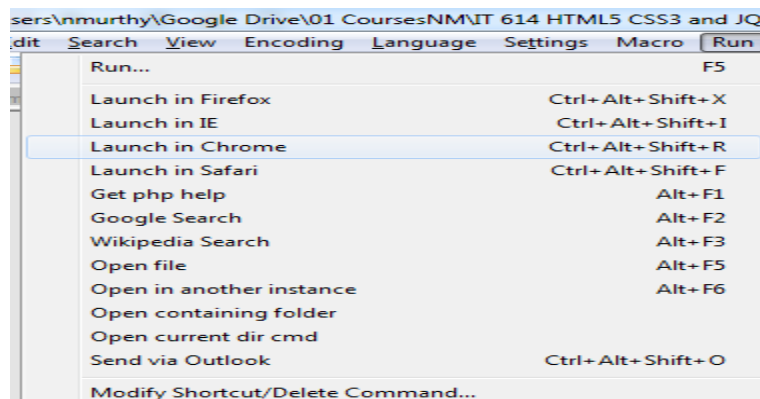
The text editor which comes with Windows, Notepad is enough. But, I like to suggest an editor called Notepad++, which is much better than Notepad. Notepad++ provides several features to make text editing life nicer. Download Notepad++ from <http://notepad-plus-plus.org/> and install it on your computer.

You also need a latest browser. In fact, I like you to install the latest versions several leading browsers: Google Chrome, Internet Explorer, Firefox and Safari (and maybe Opera too). Having several browsers will help us compare features in different browsers. Remember, we are dealing with latest technologies (HTML5, CSS3, JQuery,...) in this course. These technologies are still evolving. Some features may not work in one browser but may work in other browsers. Go to the Web site, <http://html5test.com/> and see how well does your browser support html5.

Notepad++ offers several very convenient features. I like to mention two of them:

1. You can keep several files open in different tabs
2. When you write an HTML file and save the file, you need to open it in a browser to test it. Normally, these are two independent steps. This step of opening an HTML file in a browser is integrated into Notepad++:

After you save the file, click Run:



From the list of Launch... select the browser. The browser will open the file and displays the web page.

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## 2. Server to upload your files

Your assignments in this course require uploading your files to a server and submitting links to me. We will be using a University server called Vulcan. You need an account on the server to use it. See the "Your Vulcan Accounts" document and make a note of your user id and password. Read the document, "Getting Started with SSH and Vulcan" for details about how to get started with Vulcan.

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