

DexNotePro: Introduction to Visual Studio Code

About This Course

Welcome to **Introduction to VS Code**, your coding command center! **Visual Studio Code (VS Code)** is a lightweight yet powerful editor built by Microsoft — used by developers, students, and professionals worldwide.

By the end of this course, you'll:

- Install and configure VS Code
 - Master its interface and shortcuts
 - Use extensions for Python, HTML, and AI projects
 - Debug and run code efficiently
 - Customize your workspace like a pro
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Module 1: What Is VS Code?

VS Code is a **source-code editor** that supports dozens of programming languages. It's fast, customizable, and connects directly with GitHub.

Features:

- Syntax highlighting and IntelliSense
- Debugging tools
- Built-in terminal
- Git and GitHub integration
- Extensions marketplace

Try This ⚡

Visit <https://code.visualstudio.com> → Download and install VS Code for your OS.

Module 2: Exploring the Interface

After launching VS Code, you'll see:

Section	Description
Activity Bar	Shortcuts for Explorer, Search, Git, Debug, Extensions
Side Bar	Shows files, folders, and code explorer
Editor Area	Where you write code
Status Bar	Displays current branch, errors, encoding, etc.
Terminal Panel	Built-in console for running commands

Try This 

Open the Command Palette (`Ctrl + Shift + P`) and type `>Welcome`. It opens the getting started guide.

Module 3: Creating and Managing Files

Create a New File

1. Click “New File” or use shortcut `Ctrl + N`
2. Save it as `index.html` or `main.py`

Open a Folder

Go to **File** → **Open Folder**, select your project folder. All files will appear in the **Explorer**.

Try This 

Create a new folder called `MyFirstProject` and add two files: `index.html` and `style.css`.

Module 4: Syntax Highlighting and Themes

VS Code automatically detects your file type and highlights syntax.

Changing Theme

1. Press `Ctrl + K`, then `Ctrl + T`
2. Choose your favorite color theme (e.g., **Dark+**, **Monokai**, **SynthWave '84**)

Try This 🌀

Install a futuristic theme like “Abyss” or “Night Owl” from the Extensions Marketplace.

Module 5: Extensions

Extensions make VS Code incredibly powerful.

Must-Have Extensions:

- **Python** – Run and debug Python code
- **Prettier** – Auto-format your code
- **Live Server** – Preview HTML in browser
- **GitLens** – Visualize Git history
- **Material Icon Theme** – Beautiful folder icons

Try This ⚙️

Open the Extensions tab (`Ctrl + Shift + X`) and install “Live Server”.

Module 6: Integrated Terminal

Run commands without leaving VS Code.

```
# Open Terminal  
Ctrl + `  
  
# Example commands  
python script.py  
git status
```

Try This 📌

Run your first Python script directly inside the terminal!

Module 7: Running and Debugging Code

Running HTML

Open an HTML file and click “Go Live” (if Live Server installed).
Your page opens instantly in your browser.

Debugging Python

1. Set a breakpoint by clicking next to the line number.
2. Click the Debug icon → “Run and Debug.”
3. Watch variables and execution flow.

Try This ☐

Add a bug (like a missing parenthesis) and use the debugger to find it!

Module 8: Git & GitHub Integration

VS Code works perfectly with Git.

Basic Commands

- **Initialize Repo:** `git init`
- **Commit:** use the Source Control panel (Ctrl + Shift + G)

- **Push to GitHub:** login → “Publish to GitHub”

Try This ☞

Link your VS Code to your GitHub account and commit a file change.

Module 9: Customization and Settings

Settings

Press `Ctrl + ,` to open Settings. You can modify:

- Font size
- Tab width
- Auto-save
- Editor layout

Keybindings

Open Command Palette → search for “Keyboard Shortcuts”.

Try This ☐

Set `"editor.fontFamily": "Fira Code"` to enable font ligatures for a futuristic coding feel.

Module 10: Tips, Tricks & Next Steps

Power Tips:

- Use `Ctrl + P` → Quickly open any file
- Use `Ctrl + /` → Comment/uncomment lines
- Use `Ctrl + Shift + F` → Global search

Next Steps:

- Learn **HTML Foundations**, **Python Foundations**, or **AI Fundamentals**
 - Explore extensions for **Copilot**, **Docker**, or **MongoDB**
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Completion Reminder

✓ You've finished the **Introduction to VS Code** course!
Visit **DexNotePro** and mark your course as complete to move on to backend or AI development.

🔗 <https://ishaan7india.github.io/DexNotePro/>