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Github is a web-based version control repository launched in February 2008. Founders Tom Preston-Werner, Chris Wanstrath, and PJ Hyett wrote Github in Ruby and launched it in San Francisco California. It is currently the largest host of source code in the world, and is used widely for collaboration and version control on projects between developers. It builds off the original Git tool used for version control of the Linux kernel, and ads on with a variety of features. There are Git alternatives to Github, including Bitbucket and Gitlab, however Github’s emphasis on collaboration with others along with features to emphasize that (such as bug tracking and wikis) is what makes it the most popular repos out there. Using such a platform allows for a developer to make updates to code, and merge them with a collaborators changes as well. For open source programs, this allows for a community of developers to volunteer their time and contribute to projects they are interested in.

**Repository-** A projects “folder” on Github which contains all files/documentations along with all revisions and changes. These can be public or private.

**Commit-** A revision to a file or files on Github, typically accompanied with a “commit message” which explains the changes.

**Push-** Sending committed changes to a remote repository.

**Branch-** A parallel version of a repo inside, but which does not change the master branch. Changes can be made and later merged back to the master branch when changes being made are confirmed.

**Fork-** Personal copy of a different user’s repo on your account. Changes can be made on a fork without changing the original user’s files, however pull requests can still be made.

**Merge-** Taking changes from one branch (in repo or fork) and applying them to another. Done typically with a pull request.

**Clone-** A copy of a repo on a local computer opposed to on a server. Changes can be made and tracked with Git without access to the online repo, but changes can be pushed once synced online.

**Pull-** Fetching in changes made to a repo and merging them.

**Pull request-** Proposed changes to a repo submitted and reviewed by the repo’s collaborators.

For this exercise, I made a fork of the courses repo on my account. I then made changes on my local desktop to the README.md file, then pushed these to my fork. I finally submitted a pull request for the changes on my fork to be merged with the parent repo.