**Participant Machine Setup Guide**

This guide provides step-by-step instructions for participants to set up their machines before the course begins. It includes details on installing required software and tools and any necessary configuration settings.

**Machine Setup Instructions**

*Step 1: Access the Course Repository*

**Go to the GitHub repository for the course material**:

* [Intelligent Engineering with AI Repository](https://github.com/leandog/intelligent-engineering-with-ai)

*Step 2: Clone the Repository*

**Clone the repository locally**:

* + If you have Git installed, open your terminal or command prompt and run the following command:

git clone https://github.com/leandog/intelligent-engineering-with-ai.git

* + If you don’t have Git installed, download a ZIP version of the repository:
  + Click on the "Code" button on the GitHub repository page.
  + Select "Download ZIP" and extract the files to your local machine.

*Step 3: Install Required Software*

**Ensure the following software is installed and available on your machine:**

* **Git**
* **.NET 8.0 (latest)**
* **Visual Studio Code**

*Step 4: Configure Visual Studio Code*

**Install Recommended Extensions**:

* Open Visual Studio Code.
* Go to the Extensions view.
* Search for and install the following extensions:
  1. **C# Dev Kit**
  2. **C#**
  3. **.NET Core Test Explorer**
  4. **.NET Install Tool for Extension Authors**
  5. **GitHub Copilot**
  6. **CSharpier**

**Enable GitHub Copilot**:

* If you have access to GitHub Copilot, make sure it is enabled in Visual Studio Code:
  + Open the Command Palette (Ctrl+Shift+P).
  + Type "GitHub Copilot: Enable" and select it to enable GitHub Copilot.

*Step 5: Verify Setup*

**Verify Git Installation**:

* + Open your terminal or command prompt.
  + Run the following command:

git --version

* + Ensure it returns a version number.

**Verify .NET Core SDK Installation**:

* + Open your terminal or command prompt.
  + Run the following command:

dotnet --version

* Ensure it returns a version number.

**Verify VS Code Installation**:

* Open Visual Studio Code.
* Ensure it opens without any errors.

*Step 6: Final Steps*

**Celebrate:** You are now ready for the class!

**If you encounter any issues**:

* Reach out to Jeff Dunay at jeff.dunay@leandogsoftware.com for assistance.

Following these steps, you should have your machine correctly set up with all the software and tools required for the "Intelligent Engineering with AI" course. Please complete these steps before the course begins to ensure a smooth start.