Web Application Architectures

Module 1: Introduction and Background
Lecture 5: Setting Up Your Development Environment

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- We will be using the Ruby on Rails (Rails) web application framework extensively in this class.

- In order to use this framework effectively, you'll need to set up a development environment on your computer with the following components:
    - Ruby programming language.
    - Rails web application framework (a Ruby gem).
    - A modern text editor that supports syntax highlighting, or an integrated Rails development environment.
    - A modern browser with integrated developer tools – these will help you inspect, debug and optimize your web applications.
    - SQLite Database Browser – GUI editor for SQLite databases.
    - Git – a distributed version control and source code management system.

Your Development Environment

- The exact manner in which you configure your development environment will depend upon the operating system you're using, as well as your personal preferences.

- In the notes associated with this lecture, we provide:
  - The specific versions of Ruby, Rails, RVM and Git that you need to use in this class.
  - Operating system-dependent suggestions for constructing your development environment.

- We will also make a virtual machine available that contains a pre-built development environment.

- Throughout this course I will be demonstrating the manner in which I develop and use Rails applications.