The HelloWorldApplication class is the entry point for a Spring Boot application, marked by the @SpringBootApplication annotation. It implements the CommandLineRunner interface, which allows the execution of the run() method immediately after the application starts. In this method, a simple "Hello world" message is printed to the console. The main() method calls SpringApplication.run(), which launches the Spring Boot application. This setup demonstrates how to execute custom code upon application startup using Spring Boot.

This lab taught me the basics of creating and running a Spring Boot application. We looked at the main parts and important features, like the main application class and annotations such as @SpringBootApplication and @RestController. By building a simple RESTful web service with Spring MVC, I learned how to handle HTTP GET requests using the @GetMapping annotation. The lab also showed how to use the CommandLineRunner interface to run custom code when the application starts. We learned that the main() method is crucial for starting a Spring Boot application with SpringApplication.run().