Introduction to the Programming Environment

In this course and the rest of the courses in this specialization, you will write your programming assignments in an environment custom-made for this specialization, which we refer to as the **Practice Programming Environment** (or PPE). This will enable you to write code in an environment as a professional would, but you will not need to download or install anything on the machine you are using for this course.

Each time there is an assignment to do at your place in the course, you will have a reading titled "Assignment [assignment ID]", from which you will be able to open the Practice Programming Environment through that item. This will take you to a custom instance of xterm.js, a terminal you can use in your browser!

Everything you do for this course will be saved in your home directory in this environment, but you can also download it if you wish.

If this seems new, do not worry—we will walk you through how to use the Practice Programming Environment in the next lesson and introduce you to the most important technical tools you will use to become an excellent programmer!