

# How to Get Started

---

**Dear Mauricio,**

Your father has created this complete financial modeling course as a gift for you. Here's how to set it up on your computer in Brussels.

---

## Step 1: Sync This Folder to Your Computer

Since this is already in Google Drive, you have two options:

### Option A: Google Drive Desktop (Recommended)

1. **Install Google Drive Desktop** on your Windows PC
  - Download: <https://www.google.com/drive/download/>
2. **Sign in** with your Google account
3. **Right-click this folder** ("2025. CURSO FINANCIAL MODELING MAU")
4. Select "**Available offline**"
5. The folder will sync to: **G:\My Drive\2025. CURSO FINANCIAL MODELING MAU**

### Option B: Download as ZIP

1. **Right-click this folder** in Google Drive web
  2. Select "**Download**"
  3. **Extract** to your PC (e.g., **C:\Users\YourName\Documents\FinancialModeling**)
- 

## Step 2: Start Learning!

Once the folder is on your computer:

1. **Open the folder** in File Explorer
  2. **Double-click:** **START\_HERE.md**
    - This opens in a text editor
    - Read your father's personal message ❤️
    - Follow the complete learning path
  3. **Next, read:** **QUICK\_START\_GUIDE.md**
    - 30-minute setup for VS Code, Python, Git
    - Everything you need to begin
  4. **Then follow the modules** as outlined in START\_HERE.md
- 

 **Important: GitHub Copilot Subscription**

Your father **strongly recommends** subscribing to GitHub Copilot (\$10/month):

- Essential for this course (70% of the value)
- 30-day free trial to start
- Saves hours of work
- Worth every cent for your PE career

**Setup during Module 1** - instructions included in QUICK\_START\_GUIDE.md

---

## What's in This Folder

```
2025. CURSO FINANCIAL MODELING MAU/
├── START_HERE.md ★ Begin here! Personal letter from your father
├── QUICK_START_GUIDE.md → Then this - 30-min setup
├── HOW_TO_GET_STARTED.md → You are reading this now
├── README.md → Complete course overview
├── Tutorials/ ★ 5 hands-on VS Code tutorials (COMPLETE FIRST!)
│   ├── 01_VS_Code_Basics.md (2-3 hrs)
│   ├── 02_GitHub_Copilot_Hands_On.md (3-4 hrs)
│   ├── 03_VS_Code_Data_Analysis.md (2-3 hrs)
│   ├── 04_Building_DCF_with_VS_Code.md (3-4 hrs)
│   └── 05_VS_Code_Power_User.md (2-3 hrs)
├── Module_01_Setup/ → Environment setup
├── Module_02_Python_Fundamentals/ → Python basics
├── Module_03_Data_Analysis/ → Pandas & data
├── Module_04_DCF_Modeling/ → Valuation models
├── Module_05_LBO_Modeling/ → PE buyout analysis
├── Module_06_MA_Analysis/ → M&A models
├── Module_07_PE_Modeling/ → PE fund modeling
├── Module_08_Advanced_Topics/ → Monte Carlo, ML, APIs
└── Module_09_Projects/ → Real-world case studies
```

Each module contains:

- .md files (lessons with theory and examples)
- .pdf files (same content, for reading offline)
- solutions.py (working code examples)
- Special files (celebration scripts, model templates)

---

## Your Learning Journey

### Recommended Path:

#### 1. Week 1-2: Tutorials & Setup (Foundation)

- Tutorial 01: VS Code Basics → Master your editor
- Tutorial 02: Git & Copilot → Version control + AI

- Module 01-02: Setup + Python fundamentals

## 2. **Week 2-3: Data & First Model** (Building Skills)

- Tutorial 03: Data Analysis → Pandas mastery
- Tutorial 04: DCF Building → Your first valuation
- Module 03-04: Data analysis + DCF modeling

## 3. **Week 4-5: Advanced Models** (PE Focus)

- Module 05: LBO modeling (PERFECT for PE Club!)
- Module 06-07: M&A + PE fund analysis

## 4. **Week 6-8: Mastery & Portfolio** (Professional Level)

- Tutorial 05: Power User → Advanced techniques
- Module 08: Advanced topics (ML, APIs, automation)
- Module 09: Real-world projects

**Total time commitment:** 40-50 hours (your pace, your schedule) **Outcome:** Professional Python + finance skills, GitHub portfolio

---

## ✨ Special Notes

### 1. **Keep files in sync:**

- If using Google Drive Desktop, changes auto-sync
- Your progress is always backed up
- Can access from anywhere

### 2. **Watch for surprises:**

- Your father hid special messages throughout
- Run the Python files when instructed
- You'll love them! 🎁

### 3. **Stay organized:**

- Complete modules in order
  - Run exercises as you learn
  - Commit to GitHub (you'll learn how)
- 

## Need Help?

1. **Read the module files** - Very detailed explanations
  2. **Use GitHub Copilot** - AI assistant (subscribe!)
  3. **Check solutions** - Every module has example code
  4. **Ask your father** - He built this and knows it inside-out!
-

## 🌟 Ready to Begin?

**Next step:** Open [START\\_HERE.md](#) and read your father's message.

This course will transform your PE career at PE Club.

**From México to Brussels with love!** 🇲🇪 🇧🇪

**¡Vamos Mauricio!** 🚀

---

*Course: Advanced Financial Modeling with VS Code*

*Created with love by: Sergio Muñoz de Alba Medrano*

*For: Mauricio Muñoz de Alba Montiel*

*November 2025*