Installing and Configuring Github

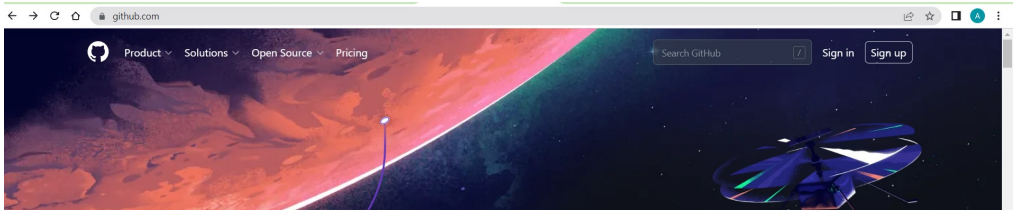
GITHUB is a file management system that does the following:

a) Keeps your files in the cloud.
b) Easily maintains different versions of your code.
c) Great for collaboration, keeps track of everyone's changes!

We will use Github to manage the lecture files.

Step 0: Basic Setup (only do once)

1. Open a Github account by going to "github.com". Try to register with your Emory email since you sometimes get student benefits. Be careful selecting your username, this will be visible to the public.



2. Download Github Desktop from: https://desktop.github.com/

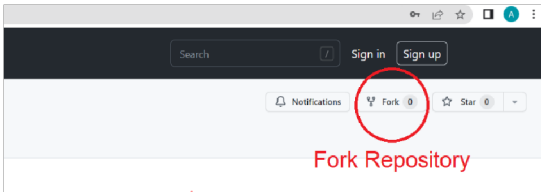
   Follow the default options in the installation process and use your newly created Github credentials.

Step 1: Adding "QTM 151 Lecture Notes" to your account (only do once)

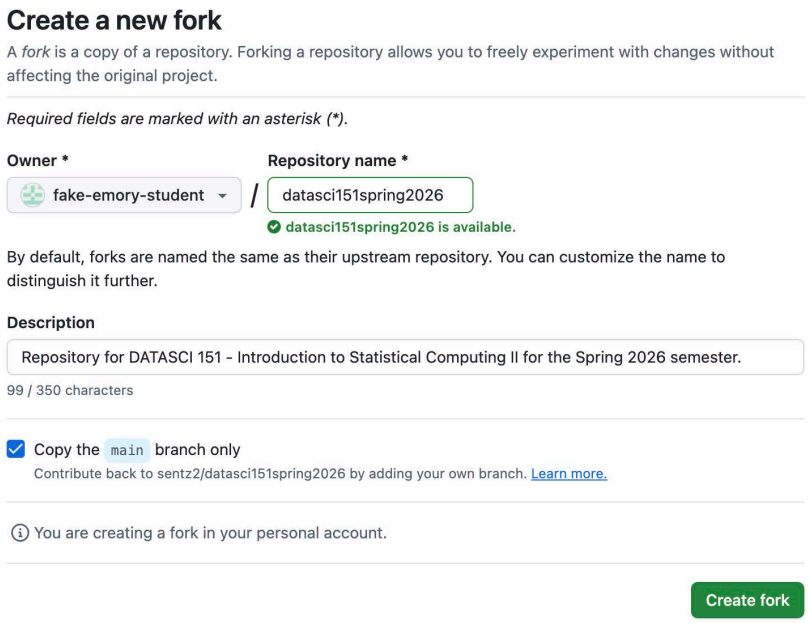
1. Sign-in to "Github.com" using your account credentials.
2. Go the website of the repository with the lecture notes:

https://github.com/sentz2/datasci151spring2026

3. Click on the "Fork Button" in the top-right corner:

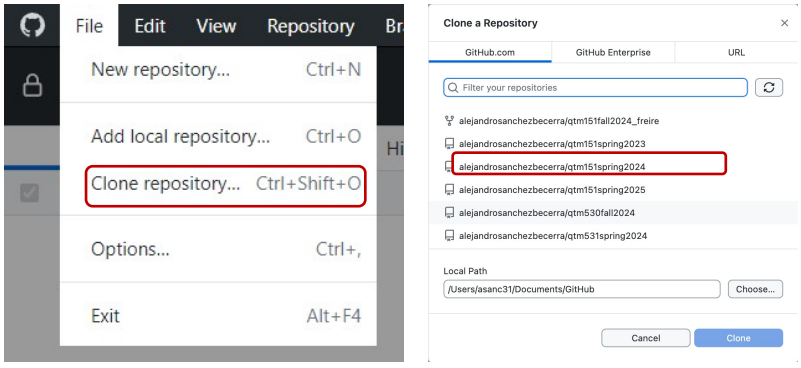


4. You will be asked to make your own copy of the lecture notes. You can add any name you like. I recommend you use the name same name I used for the repository ("datasci151spring2026"):

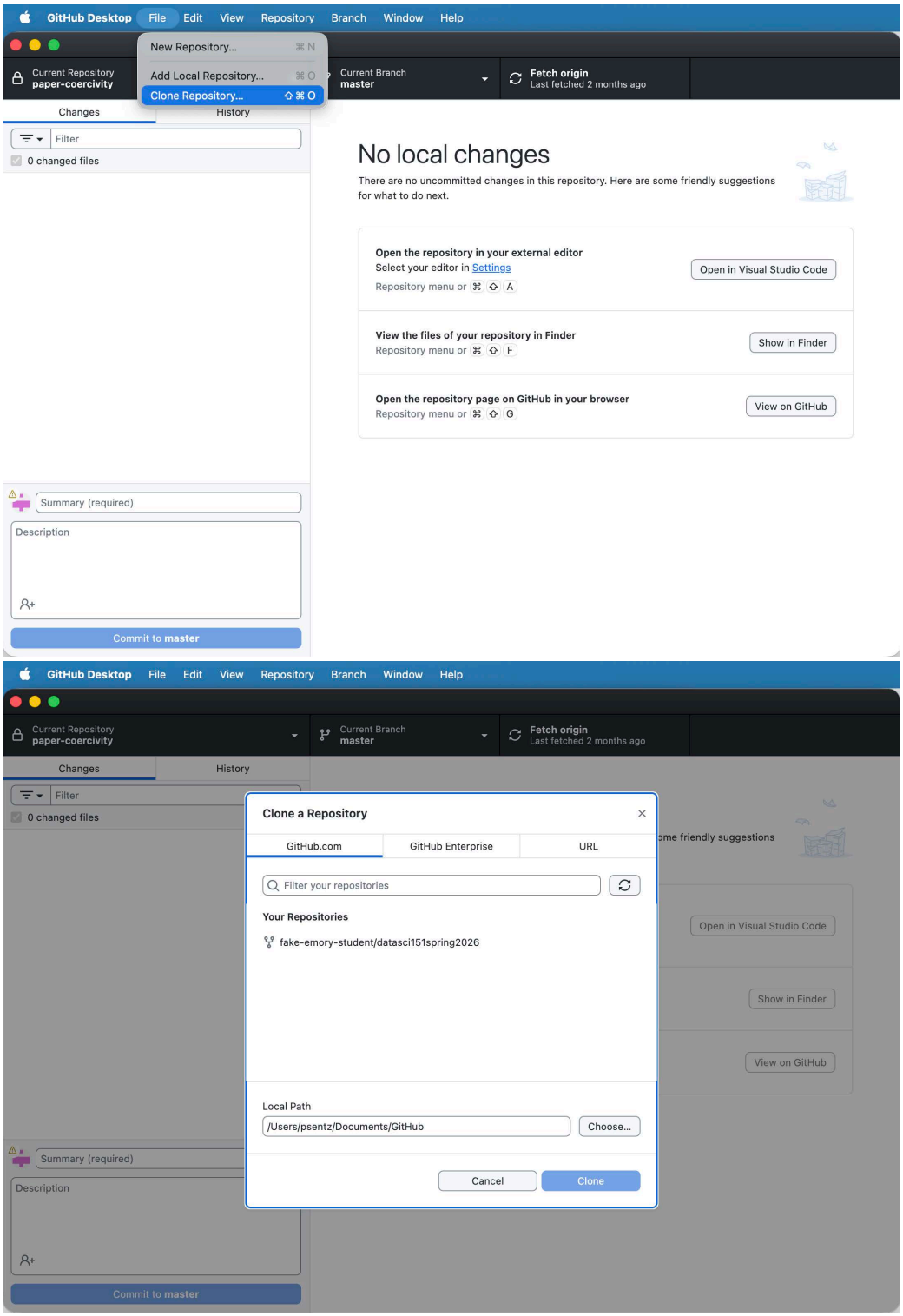


Step 2: Downloading Lectures to your Computer (only do once)

1. Open GitHub Desktop
2. Click on the "File" tab. Select the option "Clone repository". Choose the repository you want to clone. In this case it would be the "datasci151spring2026" repository we just forked.



Screenshot on a Windows machine (from a previous semester)



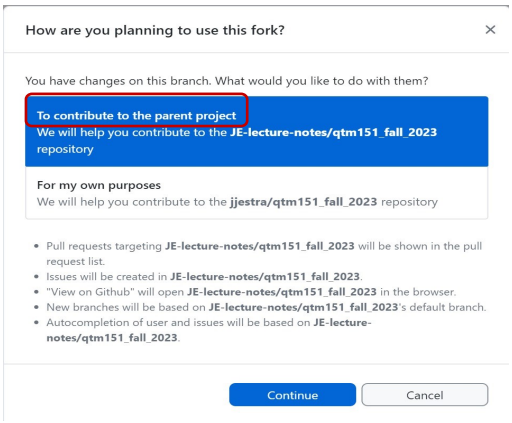
Screenshots from my Mac (Spring 2026)

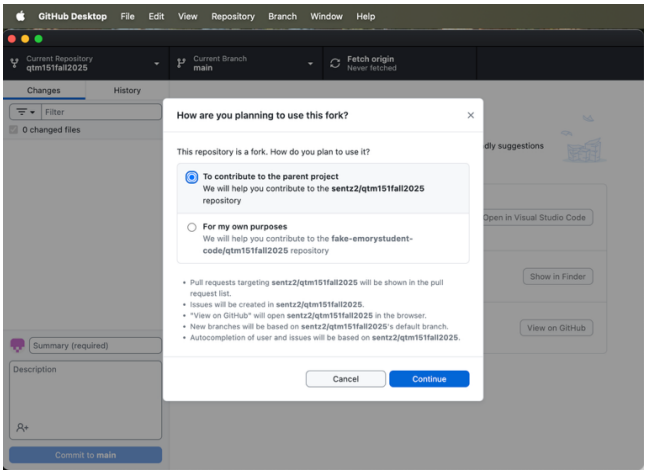
Notes:

The fork-like symbol means that "*fake-emorystudentcode/datasci151spring2026*" is a repository that was forked by the user *fake-emorystudentcode* (that's a username I created, you should see your own username here).

- The local path is where you want to store the repository on your computer.
- Avoid storing in a subfolder of another file sharing system, e.g. "One-Drive" or "Dropbox". Sometimes this can cause issues.
- If you plan on using GitHub regularly in the future, try to store the folder "*datasci151spring2026*" in the same location where you clone other repos (as an example, I used the GitHub subfolder in the Documents folder). You will need to access the *datasci151spring2026* folder often during this class, **make sure you know where you're saving it!**

3. In the next page, seltec the option "To contribute to the parent project". See next pictures. **Left:** From a Windows machine in a previous semester. **Right:** from my Mac this semester.





Notes:

- This option allows you to keep updating your lecture notes from the instructor's repository.
- The other option creates a local copy that has no links to the original repository. If you accidentally choose this option, you won't be able to see any changes. To reverse: (a) remove the repository on your computer (by right-clicking on the repository on GitHub desktop), (b) manually delete the directory, (c) go back to Step 2.

You're done! You should have access to the lecture notes.