

## Setup 1: Installing Conda

- First check if you have conda

In **MacOS** or **Linux** open a Terminal window and at the prompt type

```
conda -V
```

If you get the version number (e.g. `conda 4.8.2`) you are all set! If you get an error, that means you do not have Anaconda and would be a good idea to install it.

- If you do not have it, you can install it by following the instructions:

**Mac** : <https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/mac-os>

**Windows** : <https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/windows> (Note: #8 is important: DO NOT add to your path. The reason is that Windows contains paths that may include spaces and that clashes with the way `conda` understands paths.)

**Linux** : <https://docs.anaconda.com/anaconda/install/linux>

- If you do have anaconda consider upgrading it so you get the latest version of the packages:

```
conda update conda
```

See here for more details on how to manage [Conda Environments](#).

## Setup 2: Create Local Conda Environment

You can define a conda environment in a **YAML** file and then create the environment from the file.

1. Download [tf.yml](#). Open the file in a text editor and take a peek. It includes most of the packages we will use in the course.
2. Assuming you downloaded the file to `~/Downloads` run the following commands in your terminal.

```
$ cd ~/Downloads
$ conda env create -f gec.yml
$ conda activate gec
```

You should now see `(gec)` at the start of your command prompt. This means you are in the `gec` conda environment! You can always run `conda deactivate` to deactivate it.