Global Startups Lab Malaysia 2014: Software Installation Guide

June 25, 2014

Before the first day of class, please make sure your laptops are prepared with all of the necessary software so we can get started right away. We created an Ubuntu-based VM for you to all use so everyone starts with identical computing environments, and the instructors can more easily assist you with your problems. You may choose to avoid the VM and install the software on your local operating system. Just be aware that we may not be able to solve your software issues as easily if you're using Windows. You should be prepared to be more self-reliant.

Option 1: VM with pre-installed software (recommended)

The advantage of using this method is that the instructors will be able to more easily help you with any issues you encounter. You also don't have to track down as much software to install. However, software may run a bit slower, especially if you don't have much RAM, since you're not using a native OS.

1. Download and install VMware Player for the appropriate platform. Unfortunately VMware doesn't offer a free version for Macs, so Mac users will have to use Option 2 below. That's okay though; Macs will work with the software as well as Linux does.

2. Download the VM. Click the "Download" button in the upper right corner and select "Download as .zip". Extract the zip and open the .vmwarevm folder with VMware Player. You should be good to go!

Option 2: Self-installation of software

This method is recommended if you know your way around your computing environment and can be self-reliant with solving any software issues you encounter.

1. **Python** Download and install Python 2.7. If you're using Mac or Linux, your system should already come with Python. Python 2.6 is fine too, just avoid Python 3.

2. **Django** Install the latest version of Django (should be 1.6). In the process, you'll likely also have to install pip. Just follow the directions on the site.

3. **Android Studio** Download and install Android Studio. You may also have to install the latest JDK. Installation instructions and a link to download the JDK are available on the Android Studio website.

4. **git** Download and install git so that your team can collaborate effectively and manage your source code.

Hardware Requirements

The web development frameworks you'll be working with should run fine on any modern hardware. However, Android Studio, especially the Android emulators, are memory hogs and will run much more smoothly with more memory on your machines. I've run it with some patience with only 2GB of RAM, but you'll have a much more pleasant development experience with 4GB or more. If you need a laptop or are having performance issues, MDeC may have laptops we can loan out for the program.