

Instructions for obtaining software required for CS courses

PuTTY

PuTTY is one of the most popular SSH clients for Windows. It can be downloaded for free [here](#).

Generally, any version should work, but if you have any difficulties with selecting a proper one, you may just download [this file](#) and follow the installation instructions.

[Here](#) is a good article on how to use PuTTY on Windows.

For Mac users: you don't need any 3rd party SSH client: in order to connect to the remote server, please use a Terminal window. [Here](#) is a good article that describes how to use Terminal to connect to a remote server.

WinSCP

WinSCP is a Windows software that allows to transfer files between your Windows machine and a remote *nix server. It can be downloaded for free [here](#).

For Mac users: Cyberduck is one of the free alternatives of WinSCP for Mac users. It can be downloaded [here](#). Another option is [FileZilla](#).

Visual Studio 2019

Students have at least two options of getting Visual Studio:

- Go to the [official Microsoft website](#) and download the Community Edition of Visual Studio which is free and is fine for most of the tasks.
- If you'd like to get the Enterprise edition of Visual Studio, you can log in to your [Microsoft Azure account](#) and get it there. You'll need your SMU email address and a password for it to log in.

[Here](#) is an article on how to install Visual Studio. On the “Step 4 - Choose workloads”, if you don’t know which ones to choose, please consult with your instructor.

For Mac users: for most courses, Visual Studio for MacOS would work well. However, some components, e.g., MASM, won’t work on MacOS. Please consult with your instructor to find out if you need some Windows-specific components. If you are using Apple hardware and don’t have access to Windows machine, the easiest option would be to install Windows 10 as a virtual machine. [Here](#) is an article that describes how to do it (please note that you’ll need at least 8G or RAM on your machine to run a virtual machine smoothly).

NetBeans and Java

In order to use NetBeans, you need to install Java. It can be downloaded for free [here](#).

You’ll need Java SE JDK for your courses (JDK is required to compile your Java programs; JDK includes JRE which is needed to run Java programs). It’s recommended to install the latest LTS version of Java which is Java 11, however, Java 8 would also work in most cases. Please consult with your instructor to find out which version of Java is required for the course.

NetBeans can be downloaded for free [here](#).

Generally, the latest LTS version (which is 12) should work fine.

[Here](#) is a suggested installer for Windows.

[Here](#) is a suggested installer for MacOS.

Just download the installer and follow the instructions. However, if your instructor requires a specific version of NetBeans for the course, older releases can be found and downloaded [here](#).

MS Office

All students can get a free copy of MS Office with Office 365 program. Please refer to the [FAQ page](#) to find out how to install MS Office on your machine.

If you have any questions/issues, feel free to send an email to admin@cs.smu.ca