

LING 471: Computational Methods for Linguists

SIYU LIANG

Learning outcomes

- Locate important information in the syllabus
- Download and install Python
- Download and install VSCode

Syllabus tour

Syllabus

- Syllabus page: <https://siyuliang.github.io/teaching/ling471/spr26/>
 - Slides will be uploaded **before** each class

Additional course info

No pre-reqs!

- There is no expectation of prior knowledge about
 - Linguistics
 - Programming/computer science
 - Math, probability, and stats beyond high school
- Class is just a quantitative/symbolic reasoning course
 - Does not count as intro to programming for, e.g., a CS major
 - Class does not count toward the MS in comp ling

Some technical setup

Installing Python

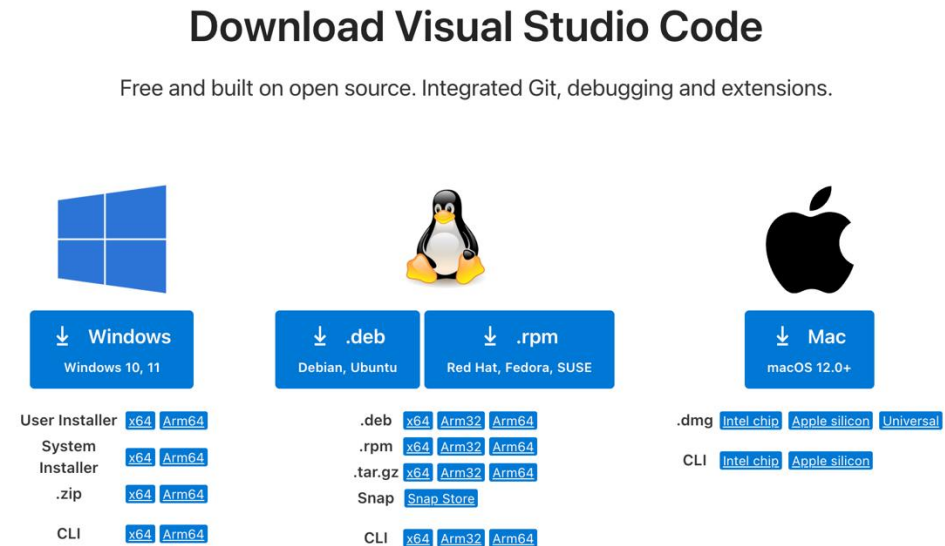
- We will be using the Python programming language for this course
- If you are using Windows, you will need to download it from <https://www.python.org/downloads/>
 - Mac and Linux may need to update (or make sure some recent version of Python 3 is install)
- Go ahead and do this now



Installing Visual Studio Code (VSCode)

- We will be using VSCode to write Python code
 - <https://code.visualstudio.com/download>
 - VSCode is an IDE (interactive development environment)
- Go ahead and install now

Download Visual Studio Code
Free and built on open source. Integrated Git, debugging and extensions.



The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code download page. It features three main columns for operating systems: Windows, Linux, and Mac. Each column has a download button and a list of available installers and architectures.

Operating System	Download Button	Available Installers/Architectures
Windows	Windows 10, 11	User Installer (x64, Arm64), System Installer (x64, Arm64), .zip (x64, Arm64), CLI (x64, Arm64)
Linux	.deb (Debian, Ubuntu), .rpm (Red Hat, Fedora, SUSE)	.deb (x64, Arm32, Arm64), .rpm (x64, Arm32, Arm64), .tar.gz (x64, Arm32, Arm64), Snap (Snap Store), CLI (x64, Arm32, Arm64)
Mac	Mac (macOS 12.0+)	.dmg (Intel chip, Apple silicon, Universal), CLI (Intel chip, Apple silicon)

Requesting an account on Patas

- Sometimes, it is better to use someone else's computer
 - Especially when running intensive programs
- We have our own remote cluster called “Patas” that you can use
- You will first need to request an account (part of your homework!)
- Request an account here:
 - <https://cldb.ling.washington.edu/live/accountrequest-form.php>

Requesting an account on Patas

UW NetID:	liangsy
Name: *	<input type="text" value="Siyu Liang"/>
Email:	<input type="text" value="liangsy@u.washington.edu"/>
Type *:	<input type="radio"/> Ongoing - <i>Linguistics students & faculty, Computational Linguistics lab members, and collaborators.</i> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Temporary - <i>all other students.</i>
Class *: If you selected "Temporary" above.	<input type="text" value="Ling 471"/>
UW Affiliation *:	<input type="text" value="Student"/>
Sponsor: (If you selected "Collaborator" as your affiliation.)	<input type="text"/>
Department *: If your department is not listed, choose "Not Listed" and enter it in the box below.	<input type="text" value="Linguistics"/>
If you chose "Not Listed" above, enter your department name here:	<input type="text"/>
Degree Sought *:	<input type="text" value="Bachelors"/>
Which labs will you be using?	<input type="checkbox"/> Computational Linguistics <input type="checkbox"/> Phonetics <input type="checkbox"/> Sociolinguistics
Account needed until (mm/dd/yyyy): * (CLMA students, use your expected graduation date.)	<input type="text"/>

Before next class

- Complete the class survey
 - <https://forms.gle/R4WiPdt9KgBJkYYe8>
- Upload your name pronunciation on Canvas -- Namecoach

Questions?
