

The Cursor IDE

If you want to use the Cursor IDE as an alternative to VS Code and GitHub CoPilot I will allow it.

Understand that, for the rest of the semester, I will tailor my instruction to the VS Code interface. I won't jump back and forth between the two interfaces. That's because the VS Code + GitHub CoPilot combination is working for roughly 90% of the students in MIS3502.

A special note to Mac users: before you jump to a whole new platform, you should first verify that the VS Code application is, in fact, in your Applications folder. Running an application like VS Code from your downloads folder, or your documents folder, is a sure-fire way to set yourself up for trouble later. It may appear that everything is fine at first, but file system permissions issues will ultimately result in one or more mysterious problems.

So, if you want to give Cursor a try, watch and follow along with these videos:

1. Get your student account and install it - https://youtu.be/lqEV_KEF7Qo
 - **CORRECTION: (around minute 4:01)**
When students reach the page that says **“Start your Pro plan to continue,”** they should **not click “Continue.”**
Instead, after signing up with their email, they should click **“Skip for now.”**
If they press **Continue**, Cursor shows the payment wall asking for the **\$20 subscription**. However, if they click **Skip for now**, they can bypass that page completely and proceed with the installation process normally.
After skipping, they should be able to continue with the steps in the video and download Cursor as shown later in the video around **minute 4:42**.
2. VIDEO #2 HERE IS SUPER IMPORTANT (unless you like to throw money away) - <https://youtu.be/H1ZO2sDp94M>
 - **CORRECTION:** Students should follow **exactly the same process** as in Video 1. The only difference is that **after** they verify their student status and receive their **student benefits**, the payment page will appear again (the same page they skipped in Video 1).
 - This time, however, the page should show a **student discount** and the total should appear as **\$0**.
 - Students will still need to enter **credit card information**, but they **will not be charged** during the student benefits period. The charge would only occur **after the benefits expire (after one year)**, and they can cancel the subscription anytime before that.

- See “Additional Tips” for more information about how to avoid getting charged.
3. Install extensions - https://youtu.be/hFjV_1Sirwo
- AWS Toolkit Works
 - **Thunder Client** should be replaced with **Bruno**
 - **SUPER IMPORTANT FOLLOW UP. @workspace is not as reliable in Cursor. Here is my fix: <https://youtu.be/PgNHHw0ffVA>**

One of my ITAs, Moa Al Balushi, has graciously agreed to be the point of contact for all questions related to Cursor. Please contact him directly if you need help with cursor.

His contact information is below:

Moa Al Balushi

Office Hours: Tuesdays from 3:00-4:00pm via Zoom

Zoom: <https://temple.zoom.us/my/moaalb>

Email: moath.al.balushi@temple.edu

CONTINUED ...

Additional Tips

- 1) Students can **use a prepaid or temporary card instead of their main card**. The reason is that if they forget to cancel before the one-year benefit ends, their main card could get charged automatically.
 - One simple way students with **iPhones** can do this is:
 - Open the **Wallet** app on their iPhone.
 - Tap the card and open the **card details section at the top** (the icon that shows a card and “123”).
 - They will see the **card number details** there.
 - They can use those numbers when entering the payment information on the Cursor payment page.
 - After the setup is complete and everything works, they can go back to the Wallet app and click “**Request New Card Number.**”
 - This will generate a **new card number**, which automatically invalidates the old one they used during the Cursor signup, so it cannot be charged later.

- 2) **Some students will get confused because Cursor’s interface layout is slightly different from the VS Code layout used in class. A couple of small adjustments can make Cursor look much more like VS Code.**
 - A. Move the File Explorer and Agent panel from the right side to the left side. Students can do this by:
 - Clicking View in the top menu
 - Selecting Appearance
 - Clicking Move Primary Side Bar Left
 - B. Move the Activity Bar (Extensions bar) to the left side. Students can do this by:
 - Clicking File → Preferences → VS Code Settings
 - In the search bar, type “Activity Bar Location”
 - Under Workbench → Activity Bar: Orientation, switch Horizontal → Vertical

This makes the layout look much closer to the VS Code interface, which helps students follow along more easily with the workflow shown in class.