

Emacs installation and setup instructions

- Install the Gnu Emacs editor on your laptop computer (If you are running Linux or OSX, Emacs should come pre-installed with the OS).
 - Download the installation file:
Windows version in <http://ftp.gnu.org/gnu/emacs/windows/> (get file emacs-24.3-bin-i386.zip)
Other versions in <http://www.gnu.org/software/emacs/windows/Getting-Emacs.html#Getting-Emacs>.
The rest of these instructions assume that you are using Windows. It's similar for other OS's and you can do a Google search to find instructions.
 - Unpack the file using WinZIP or WinRAR. You should get an **emacs-xx.y** folder (depending on the current version number of Emacs (xx.y)).
 - Wherever you put the folder, go to its **bin** sub-folder and double-click to run **addpm.exe**.
- Download Claude Anderson's **init.el** file (linked from the Resources column, Day 1 on the course schedule page). Place it in **C:\Users\your_username\AppData\Roaming\emacs.d** folder. If that folder does not exist, you will have to create it. The **init.el** contains instructions for what to do if you cannot see the **AppData** folder.
- Alternately, you may want to use Jason Hemann's `.emacs` file:
<https://github.com/jasonhemann/emacs> .
Lots of good stuff there, but not yet tested with CSSE 304 materials.
- Create a folder (Somewhere inside your Documents folder?) where you will put your Scheme programs.
- Edit the last line of the **init.el** file (Using Notepad++, emacs or some other nice text editor): Change the **cd** command at the so that it goes to the folder you just created (use the syntax that you see in the existing **cd** command). Start emacs; if any of the other commands cause an error message when you start emacs, just remove them.
- You should be ready to scheme away in emacs. Try Ctrl-x % (Hold down control while pressing x, release those, then hold down Shift while pressing %) and Scheme should load.

Optional: Try the Emacs editor.

See the [Emacs and Scheme](#) document (a few things are obsolete but I am working on it) for details. Spend a few minutes on the tutorial; come back to it when you have time. Many of the commands may be found in the Emacs menus; you do not have to learn the special key sequences for them right away. You are not required to learn Emacs for this course, but I recommend that sometime soon you invest a couple of hours to see what it can do for you. I think that investing time now will give you a big payoff as the course progresses, and it will be a valuable tool throughout your programming career. If you do decide to learn Emacs, you should eventually learn the key sequences for common commands; they will save you time in the long run.