Git Remotes

- A remote is a stored URL of a remote repository

- A repository can have any number of remotes

- When working with GitHub collaboratively usually you want a remote for your fork and for the main repository

    - Push to your fork
    - Fetch and merge other people's contributions from main repo

Git Commit Messages

- Subject and body

    - Git treats the first line of a commit message as the subject, or title

    - If further explanation is needed, it goes in the body

    - Subject and body should be separated by a blank line

- Rules of thumbs

    - Subjects should be 50 characters or less

    - Body lines should be wrapped at 72 characters

    - This keeps things nicely readable when using git log

- Other best practices (subjective, but widely followed)

    - Capitalize subject line

    - Do not end subject with a period

- Use the imperative mood in the subject line

    - "Fix a typo" not "Fixed a typo"

    - If applied, this commit will <subject>

- Use the body to explain what changed and why

Documentation

- What all could be documented?

    - Authors

    - License and copyright

    - Modules, classes, and functions

    - Design documentation

        - Reference for future development about design choices

- Process documentation
    - What are the steps for
        - Making contributions
        - Releasing new versions

- Classes and functions should generally be documented
    - If you're going to use a class or function, you should know what it does without having to read the code

- Python docstrings

    - Surrounded by triple double quotes

    - First thing in a module, function, or class

    - Accessible from within Python using help()

- Comments within code

    - Better for a comment to describe "why" rather than "what"

    - Good descriptive names for variables, functions, and classes usually eliminate the need for comments

        # institution name
        inst = "The College of Wooster"

                    vs.

        institution_name = "The College of Wooster"

— Bad comments are worse than no comments