

AI Coding Agents — Codex

From Chat to Agent — 2026 DCI Summer Workshop, Day 1 Session 3

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Today's session

This morning you talked to a 0.8-billion-parameter LLM in a chat window. This afternoon you will **delegate** work to an AI **agent** that reads files, runs commands, and iterates on its own — guided by the same kind of model, but wrapped in a very different machine.

The agent we use is **OpenAI Codex**, in its **Desktop** form (the macOS / Windows app). By the end of this session you will have Codex installed, authenticated, pointed at a project folder, and you will have asked it to do one real task on your laptop. We will use it heavily for the rest of the workshop.

Note

Teaching goal: not “learn Codex” — Codex changes weekly. Learn the *pattern*: how any AI coding agent works, so that switching to Claude Code, Opencode, Aider, or whatever ships in six months is a matter of reading their docs, not relearning the concepts.

Before we open Codex — your computer's folder system

Codex Desktop opens a **folder** and works inside it. The agent reads, writes, and runs commands relative to that folder. Before we can point Codex at anything, you need a clear mental map of where files live on *your* computer.

Most students arrive at this workshop able to use applications but unable to answer “where exactly is the file I just downloaded?” Today we fix that.

The home folder

Every user account on a computer has a **home folder**. Everything you personally own lives somewhere inside it.

Your OS	Your home folder is	Shorthand
macOS	/Users/<your-name>/	~
Windows	C:\Users\<your-name>\	%USERPROFILE%
Linux / WSL	/home/<your-name>/	~

The ~ symbol (read “tilde”) means “my home folder.” When we write ~/genai-workshop/ we mean the same folder on every Mac and Linux laptop, regardless of whose login it is.

The five folders that matter

Inside your home folder, the operating system gave you a handful of standard subfolders. The ones you will actually use this week:

Folder	macOS path	Windows path	What’s in it
Documents	~/Documents	C:\Users\<you>\Documents	Personal documents. Often (silently) cloud-synced.
Downloads	~/Downloads	C:\Users\<you>\Downloads	Where browsers drop files. Treat as temporary.
Desktop	~/Desktop	C:\Users\<you>\Desktop	The visible desktop is <i>a folder</i> . Files dragged onto the desktop are files in this folder.
Applications / Program Files	/Applications	C:\Program Files\	Installed apps. <i>Not</i> under your home folder.
Library / AppData	~/Library (hidden)	%APPDATA% (hidden)	App settings, caches, secrets. Usually hidden by default.

Open a Finder window (macOS) or File Explorer window (Windows) now and click through each one. Watch the path in the address bar change as you move.

The cloud-storage trap

Your Documents and Desktop folders may not actually be on your laptop. If you (or your IT department) turned on any of these, they are silently synced to a cloud service:

- **macOS:** System Settings → Apple ID → iCloud → “Desktop & Documents Folders.” When this is on, ~/Documents is actually ~/Library/Mobile Documents/com~apple~CloudDocs/Documents and every file inside lives in iCloud.
- **Windows:** OneDrive’s default install relocates Documents, Desktop, and Pictures into C:\Users\<you>\OneDrive\.
- **Third-party:** Dropbox, Google Drive, Box each create a folder inside your home that looks local but is a sync point.

This matters for two reasons:

1. **You can lose work.** A cloud-synced folder can “dehydrate” files — replace them with stubs that only re-download on access. Offline, the file is not there. On sync conflict, you may get foo (1).txt, foo (Conflicted Copy 2).txt, and so on.
2. **Tomorrow’s Git lesson breaks badly inside cloud-synced folders.** Git’s internal .git/ folder contains thousands of tiny objects that cloud services try to upload one by one — slow, noisy, and prone to corrupting the repository. Keep this warning in mind when you start using Git tomorrow.

! Important

For everything this week, work inside a folder that lives directly in your home folder — *not* under Documents or Desktop.

Everyone create the same folder right now:

- **macOS:** open Finder → menu bar **Go** → **Home** (⇧⌘H) → File → New Folder → name it **genai-workshop**.
- **Windows:** open File Explorer → click your username under “This PC” (or press ⇧Win + R, type %USERPROFILE%, press Enter) → right-click → New → Folder → name it **genai-workshop**.

The full path is ~/genai-workshop/ (macOS) or C:\Users\<you>\genai-workshop\ (Windows). Every Codex project this week will open a subfolder inside it.

Hidden files

Both macOS and Windows hide certain files by default — anything starting with a dot (.gitignore, .codex/, .env) on macOS, and anything flagged “hidden” on Windows. Codex needs to see these; you should too.

- **macOS Finder:** press ⇧⌘. (shift-command-period) to toggle hidden files.
- **Windows Explorer:** View → Show → Hidden items.

Turn this on now and leave it on for the rest of the workshop.

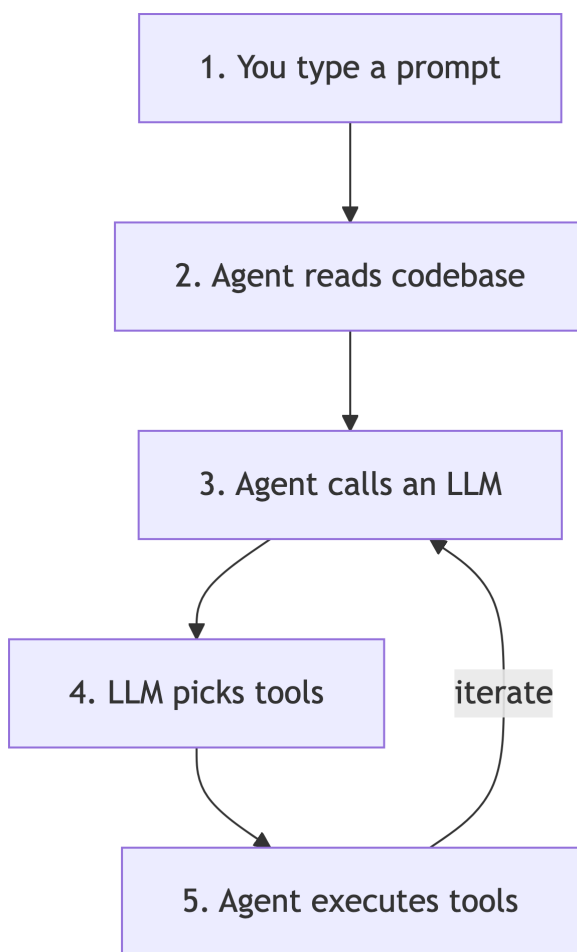
From chat to agent

This morning you sent a prompt and received a reply. That is **conversation**.

An **AI agent** uses the same underlying LLM, but adds:

- **Tools** — file read/write, shell execution, web search, structured database calls, image generation.
- **A loop** — plan → execute → observe → re-plan. The agent decides what to do next based on what just happened, without you typing in between.
- **Persistent context** — an instruction file (`AGENTS.md`) that loads automatically, plus per-session memory.

The shift in your role: **conversation** → **collaboration** → **delegation**.



Model + Harness + Surfaces

The simplest mental model for any AI coding agent. It comes from **Gabriel Chua** (OpenAI DevEx, APAC) and was summarized and popularized by **Simon Willison** in “[How I think about Codex](#)” (February 22, 2026):

Layer	What it is	Today’s example
Model	The LLM doing the reasoning	<code>gpt-5.5</code> (Codex’s default)
Harness	The scaffolding around the model — sandboxing, tools, approval flow, memory, agent loop	Codex’s Rust core
Surface	The user interface	Desktop app (today), CLI, IDE extension, or Web (chatgpt.com/codex)

Codex models are trained **in the presence of** the harness — agent behavior is not bolted on top, it is learned. Two consequences:

1. The same model behaves differently in a different harness.
2. When something fails, the bug might be in the model, the harness, or the surface — and the diagnostic question is *which*.

We use the **Desktop** surface today because it is the most approachable for first-time users: a real graphical app, with the file tree, chat, and approval prompts visible in one window. Power users often graduate to the CLI later; the underlying agent is identical.

The three major AI coding agents

	Codex	Claude Code	Opencode
Made by	OpenAI	Anthropic	Anomaly (open-source)
Open source	Yes (Apache 2.0)	No	Yes (MIT)
Default model	<code>gpt-5.5</code>	Claude Sonnet / Opus	Provider-agnostic
Instruction file	<code>AGENTS.md</code>	<code>CLAUDE.md</code>	<code>AGENTS.md</code>
Config	<code>~/.codex/config.toml</code>	<code>~/.claude/settings.json</code>	<code>~/.opencode/opencode.json</code>
MCP support	Yes	Yes	Yes
Skills system	Yes	Yes	Yes

	Codex	Claude Code	Opencode
Desktop app	Yes	Yes (desktop app, CLI, IDE extensions)	No (CLI only)

💡 Tip

Master one, master them all. The fundamental pattern — agent loop + instruction file + tools + MCP + sandbox — is the same across all three. The skills you learn with Codex Desktop today transfer directly to Claude Code, Opencode, Aider, Gemini CLI, Goose, Cline, Qwen Code, Crush, Amp, and whatever ships next month.

We use Codex today because it is **open-source**, has the most permissive plan tiers, supports MCP and Skills cleanly, ships a real desktop app, and the docs are public at <https://developers.openai.com/codex/>.

Step 1 — Launch Codex Desktop

If you completed the pre-workshop setup email, Codex Desktop should already be installed.

- **macOS:** look in /Applications/ for “Codex,” or press ☐ Space and type “Codex.”
- **Windows:** open the Start menu and search for “Codex.”

If it is not installed:

💡 macOS — preferred

```
brew install --cask codex
```

Installs the Codex Desktop app (and the CLI) in one command.

💡 Windows

Download the installer from <https://developers.openai.com/codex/> → Download → Windows. Double-click to install.

💡 Linux

There is no native Linux Desktop build yet. Use the CLI (`npm install -g @openai/codex`) or run Codex Desktop inside a macOS or Windows VM if you must have the GUI.

Launch the app. You will see the sign-in screen.

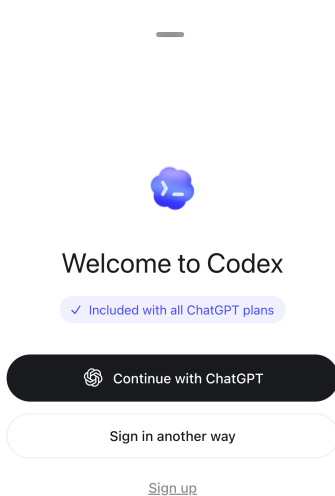


Figure 1: Codex Desktop on first launch. The big black **Continue with ChatGPT** button signs you in via your ChatGPT account (recommended). **Sign in another way** lets you paste an OpenAI API key instead.

Step 2 — Authenticate

The sign-in screen gives you two paths:

1. **Continue with ChatGPT** (recommended, the black button) — included with ChatGPT Plus, Pro, Business, Edu, Enterprise. Gives access to **gpt-5.5**, the default model. Opens your default browser for OAuth.
2. **Sign in another way** (the white button) — proceeds to an OpenAI API key entry. Billed per token instead of covered by your ChatGPT plan.

Click **Continue with ChatGPT**. Your default browser opens.

! For Harvard-affiliated participants

1. When prompted for your email, enter the **Harvard email that received the workshop invitation from Jose Neta**. That invitation is what grants you access to Harvard's ChatGPT Edu organization — without it, the next step will not work.

2. The next screen asks “How do you want to log in?”. At the top you should see **harvard-university-chatgpt** listed as a saved SSO connection. **Click that** — not Google, not Microsoft, not Apple, not password.

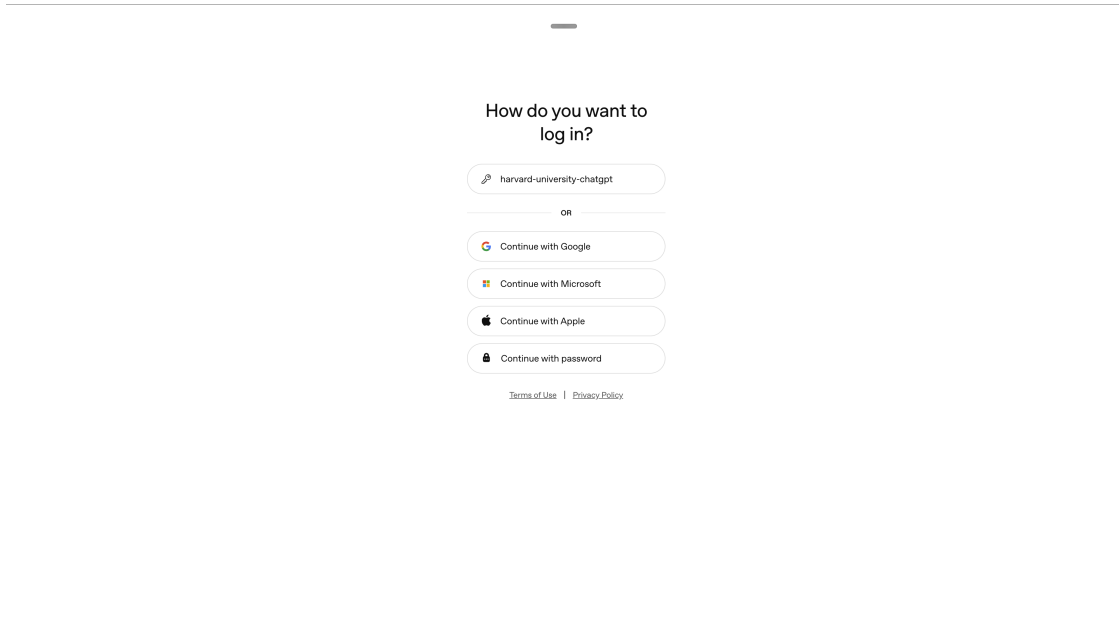


Figure 2: After entering your Harvard email, this screen appears. Click **harvard-university-chatgpt** at the top — that is the Harvard SSO connection. The other options (Google / Microsoft / Apple / password) will not give you access to ChatGPT Edu.

3. Complete the Harvard SSO flow in your usual way (HarvardKey, Duo if required). The browser will then hand control back to the Codex app.

If you do not see **harvard-university-chatgpt** on this screen, you likely entered an email that is not on Jose’s invitation list — check the invitation email and try again, or raise your hand and a TA will help.

💡 For non-Harvard participants

Skip “Continue with ChatGPT” and click **Sign in another way** on the previous Codex screen instead. A workshop API key has been provided in your registration packet — paste it when prompted.

After successful authentication, the browser hands control back to the Codex app. You should

now see the post-auth landing screen — Codex needs to know which folder to work in.

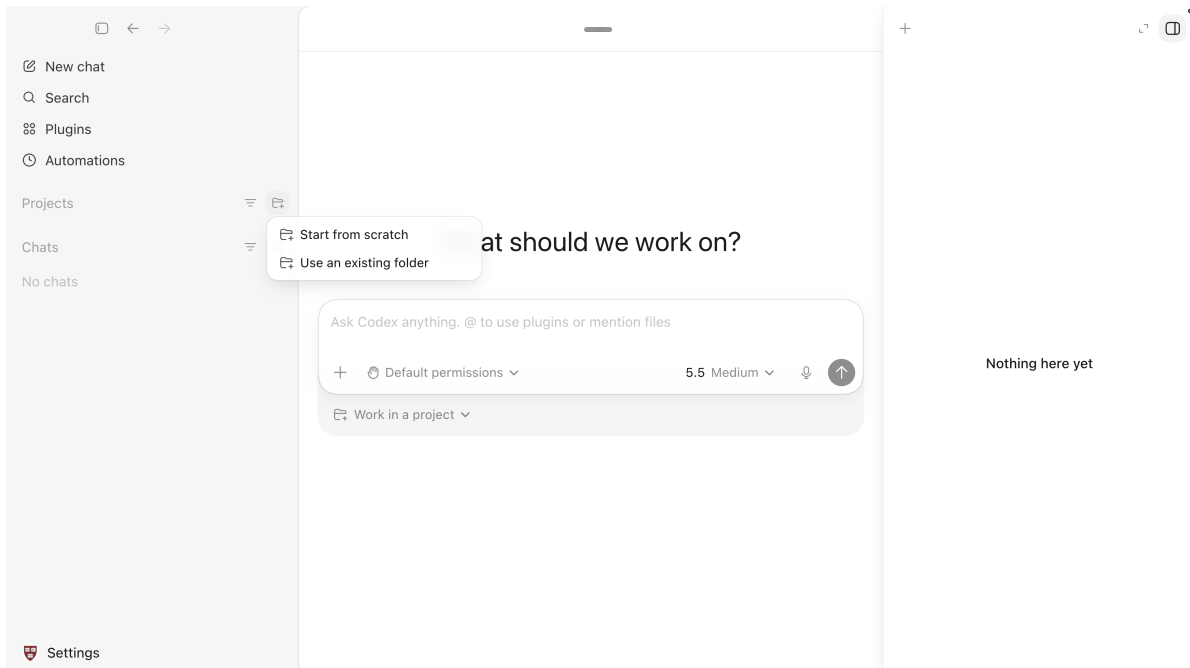


Figure 3: Codex Desktop after authentication. Greeting in the centre (“What should we work on?”); prompt box below it; the **Projects** section in the left sidebar is where each open folder lives. Clicking the “+” icon next to **Projects** (or the **Work in a project** button at the bottom-left of the prompt box) opens the dropdown shown here, with two options: **Start from scratch** or **Use an existing folder**. The Harvard shield next to *Settings* at the bottom-left confirms you are signed in to Harvard’s ChatGPT Edu organisation.

Step 3 — Open a project folder

Codex Desktop organises work into **Projects**. A project is just *a folder on your disk* that Codex is pointed at. Everything the agent does in that thread — reads, writes, command execution — happens relative to that folder.

Create today’s project folder first

Inside `~/genai-workshop/` (which you made in the folder-system section above), create a new subfolder named `session-03`:

- **macOS:** Finder → ~/genai-workshop/ → right-click → New Folder → name it **session-03**.
- **Windows:** File Explorer → %USERPROFILE%\genai-workshop\ → right-click → New → Folder → **session-03**.

Point Codex at the folder

Back in Codex Desktop, you have two equivalent ways to open the folder as a project:

- In the **left sidebar**, find the **Projects** section. Click the “+” (**new project**) icon at the right end of the “Projects” heading — a small dropdown appears.
- Or in the **prompt area**, click the **Work in a project** button below the prompt box — same dropdown.

The dropdown offers:

Option	When to use
Start from scratch	Let Codex create a brand-new project folder for you. Skip for now — we already made session-03/ .
Use an existing folder	Point Codex at a folder you already have. This is what we want. A native file picker opens; navigate to ~/genai-workshop/session-03/ and click Open.

After you pick the folder, Codex opens it as a project. You will see:

- The folder name (**session-03**) added to the **Projects** section of the left sidebar — and now selected as the active project.
- The **chat area** in the centre, empty until you send a prompt.
- The **Review pane** on the right (“Nothing here yet” until the agent has work to show).

Note

Codex Desktop has no separate file-tree panel. Unlike VS Code or Finder, the project’s files are not shown as a clickable tree in the window. Files live on disk; the *agent* (and the Review pane, once it has output) is how you interact with them. If you want to browse files visually, open the folder in Finder side-by-side with Codex.

Step 4 walks through every region of the window in detail.

Step 4 — The layout of a Codex Desktop thread

Spend two minutes orienting yourself to the interface before sending a single prompt. The screenshot below shows a Codex Desktop window with an active thread — a project open (**digital-china-wiki**), one task in progress (“Inspect folder structure”), a terminal pane open at the bottom, and the right-side Review pane showing the file changes the agent just proposed.

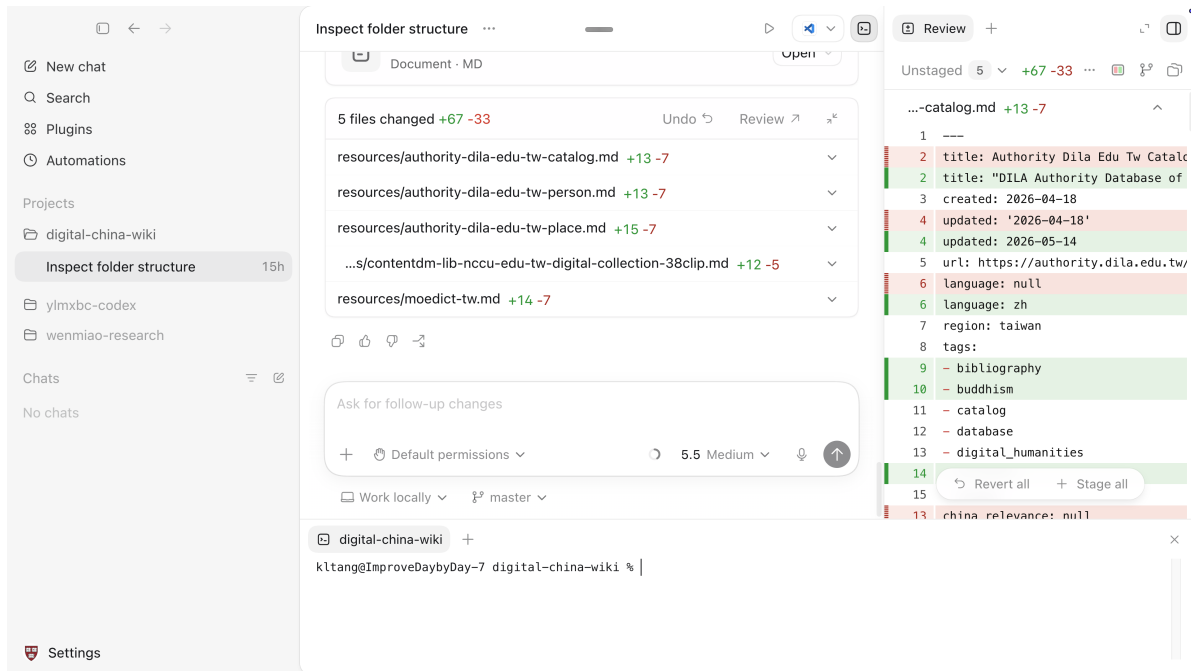


Figure 4: A Codex Desktop thread in action. Seven regions are visible — see the legend below. The Review pane, the **master** branch indicator, and the colored diffs in the screenshot are git-aware features; today you do not have git installed yet, so those will look different on your screen.

The seven regions you need to recognize:

#	Region	Where it is	What it does
1	Left sidebar	Far left column	Navigation. New chat, Search, Plugins, Automations, your Projects list, your Chats list, Settings at the bottom. The currently open project is highlighted (here: digital-china-wiki).
2	Center chat pane	Middle of the window	The running conversation. Each turn shows your prompt, the agent's reply, any tool calls, any file changes.
3	Prompt box	Bottom of the center pane	Where you type. Shift-Enter for a new line; Enter to send.
4	Permission mode selector ☐	Bottom-left of the prompt box	Default permissions / Auto-review / Full access. Step 5 covers it.
5	Model + reasoning selector	Bottom-right of the prompt box	e.g. 5.5 Medium — picks the underlying model and how hard it thinks. Independent of permissions.
6	Right pane — Review	Far right column (toggle at top-right)	The agent's pending file changes and previews. With git: line-by-line diffs you can Stage / Revert. Without git: just a list of files the agent touched.

#	Region	Where it is	What it does
7	Terminal pane	Bottom strip (hidden by default)	A real shell, embedded in the thread. Toggle with <code>⌘ J</code> (macOS) or the terminal icon at the top-right of the window. Each thread has its own terminal — switching threads switches shells.

⚠ What you will see today vs what the screenshot shows

The screenshot above was taken in a project with **git** installed and the folder under version control. **You do not have git installed yet** — we install it as homework tonight, after Session 4. So on your screen today:

- The **master branch indicator** below the prompt box (and the **Work locally** button next to it) appear only in git repositories. You will not see them.
- The **Review pane** (region 6) will be there, but the colored line-by-line **diff view** (red for deletions, green for additions) requires git. Without git the Review pane shows files the agent created or modified, but no diffs.
- The **+67 / -33** numbers on the file-change summary in the chat area come from git counting added and removed lines. Without git you will see a simpler “5 files changed” without the numbers.
- The **Stage all / Revert all** buttons in the Review pane are git-only.

Everything else — sidebar, chat area, prompt box, permission selector, model selector, terminal — works exactly the same with or without git. **Most of the workshop today will look like this screenshot minus the git annotations.**

Send your first message in the prompt box:

```
Hello! What is the current working directory?
```

The agent should reply with the path of the folder you opened (`~/genai-workshop/session-03/` or its absolute form). Congratulations — you are now talking to an AI agent.

Step 5 — The three permission modes

Codex Desktop’s safety story is **permission modes**. The current mode is shown at the **bottom-left of the prompt box** (the small label that reads *Default permissions* with a hand icon ). Click it to open the dropdown shown here.

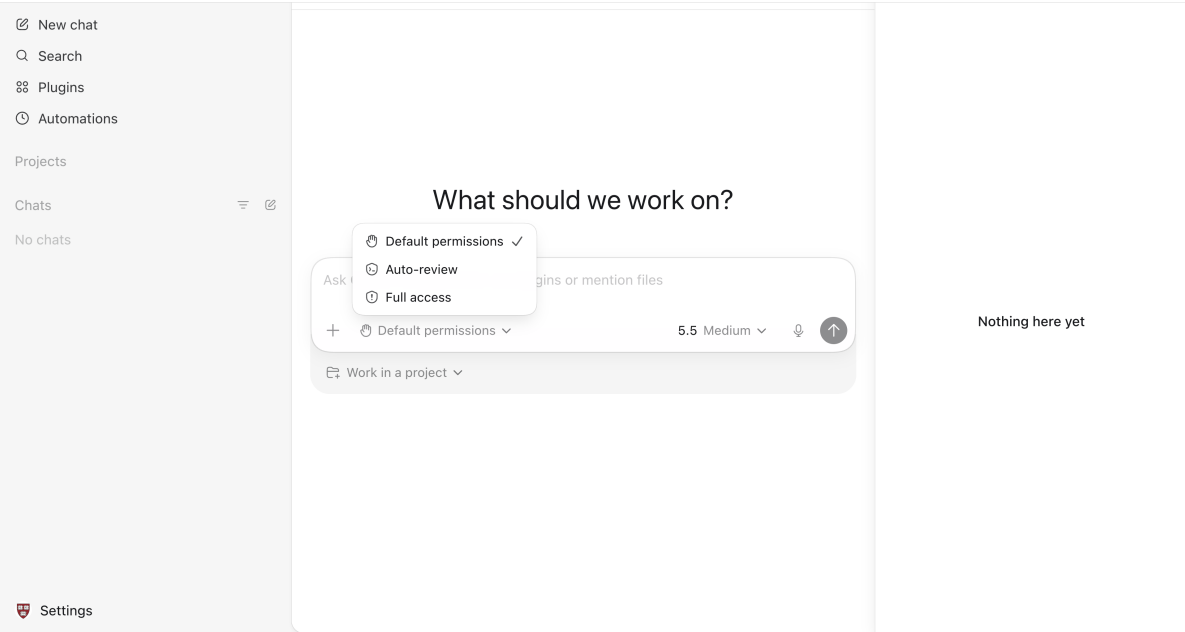


Figure 5: The permission-mode selector in Codex Desktop. Three modes: **Default permissions** (recommended, the current choice — note the checkmark), **Auto-review**, and **Full access**. The selector lives at the bottom-left of the prompt box, *not* in the top bar.

All three modes treat **files inside your project folder the same way**: Codex can read and edit them freely. What differs is how the agent handles requests for *additional* access — running shell commands, accessing the network, touching files outside the project folder.

Mode	Inside the project folder	Additional access requests
Default permissions  (default, recommended)	Read and edit freely	You are asked to approve each one. The most cautious of the three modes.

Mode	Inside the project folder	Additional access requests
Auto-review	Read and edit freely	Codex itself reviews the request and decides whether to allow it — no human in the loop. Faster, but the agent’s auto-review can make mistakes.
Full access ☐	Read and edit freely	Always allowed, no review. Codex can edit any file on your computer and run any command, including network calls, without asking.

The mental model: Default keeps a *human in the loop* for elevated access. Auto-review keeps the *agent in the loop* — faster, but the loop is fallible. Full access removes the loop entirely.

! Important

Today, stay in Default permissions. Do not switch modes during this workshop. The default is safe enough to be useful and cautious enough that you can see what the agent is about to do at each step.

i Note

Two related controls students sometimes confuse.

- The **model + reasoning effort** selector (5.5 Medium, to the right of the permissions selector) chooses *which model* to use and *how hard it thinks*. Higher reasoning → slower, more thorough. Independent of permissions.
- Lower-level **sandbox** controls (OS-enforced isolation — Seatbelt on macOS, native Sandbox on Windows) live under **Settings**. We do not change them today. The permission mode you pick here is enough.

Step 6 — A tour of Codex Desktop’s Settings

Click **Settings** at the bottom-left of the sidebar (the entry next to the Harvard shield). Settings is where Codex Desktop’s long-running configuration lives — things you set once per laptop or once per project, rather than per-message. The Settings page has a left-side menu of about a dozen tabs. We look at one tab today — **General** — which holds everything that matters for this workshop; explore the rest on your own.

General

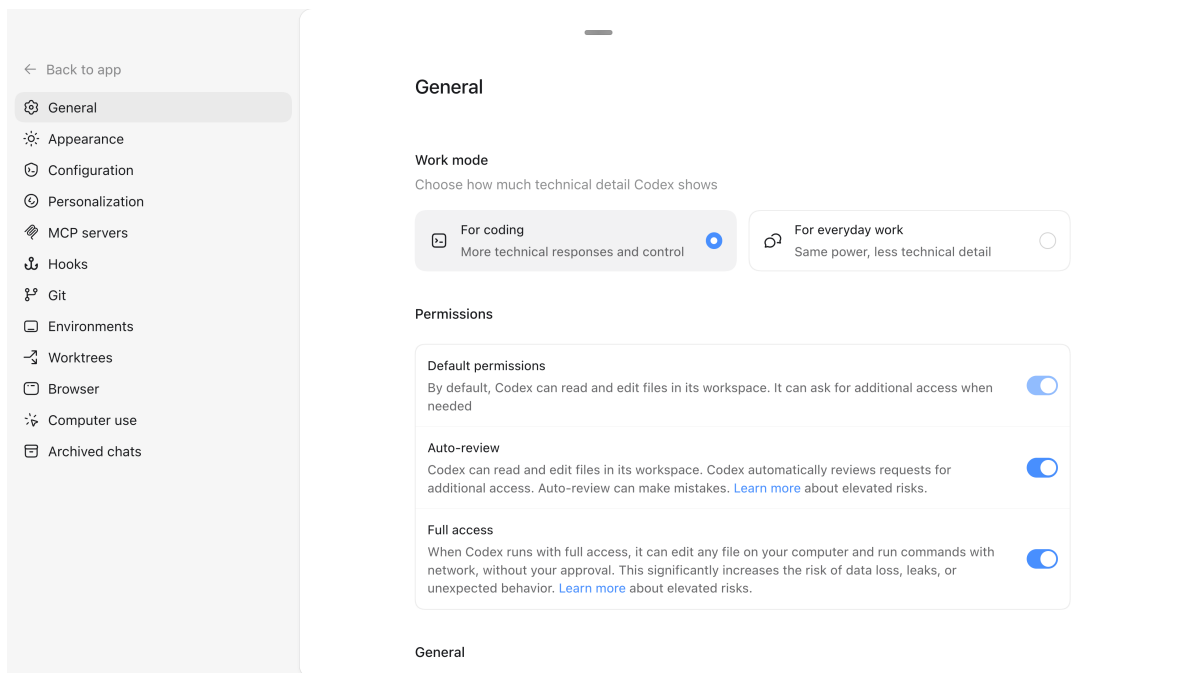


Figure 6: Codex Desktop **Settings** → **General**. Top: a **Work mode** toggle for how technical the agent’s responses should be. Middle: the **Permissions** block, exposing the same three modes from Step 5 as defaults.

The General tab has two distinct blocks:

Work mode

Mode	What it does
For coding (selected here)	“More technical responses and control.” Codex shows you the shell commands it ran, file diffs, raw output. Right for participants who want to <i>see</i> what the agent is doing under the hood.
For everyday work	“Same power, less technical detail.” The agent gives plainer explanations and hides routine plumbing. Right for participants who plan to use Codex primarily for non-coding tasks (writing, research, document processing).

For this workshop choose **For coding** so the demos in later sessions stay legible.

Permissions

The same three modes you met in Step 5 (Default permissions, Auto-review, Full access), now shown here with OpenAI's authoritative descriptions next to each. Two things worth pointing out about this view:

- The descriptions on this page are the ones to trust if there is ever any ambiguity. **Default permissions:** *“By default, Codex can read and edit files in its workspace. It can ask for additional access when needed.”* **Auto-review:** *“Codex can read and edit files in its workspace. Codex automatically reviews requests for additional access. Auto-review can make mistakes.”* **Full access:** *“When Codex runs with full access, it can edit any file on your computer and run commands with network access, without your approval.”*
- The toggles control whether each mode is *available to choose* from the bottom-of-prompt-box selector. Leave all three on; switch between them per thread.

(Below the Permissions block the General tab continues with more options — none of them are needed for this workshop.)

Step 7 — AGENTS.md, your project README for the agent

Codex reads an **AGENTS.md** file at startup. Think of it as a **README written for the agent**: project conventions, file structure, what *not* to touch, commit-message style, test commands.

It is loaded from (in order, highest priority first):

1. `~/.codex/AGENTS.override.md` — user-level overrides
2. `~/.codex/AGENTS.md` — your personal defaults
3. `<project-root>/AGENTS.md` — project-wide instructions
4. `<subfolder>/AGENTS.md` — sub-project overrides

Up to 32 KiB are concatenated into the system prompt.

💡 The teaching consensus

- Keep **AGENTS.md** to about 30 lines.
- Encode **workflows** (how to run tests, commit message format, ticket-prefix conventions), **not** personality or full architecture.
- Update it when you find yourself correcting the agent on the same thing twice.

Create one now. In Codex Desktop, ask:

Create an AGENTS.md in this folder with the following content:

```
# AGENTS.md
```

```
This is my workshop folder for the 2026 DCI Summer Workshop, Day 1 Session 3.
Anything I create here today is throwaway practice, not real work.
```

```
## Conventions for this folder
```

- When you write code, prefer **Python 3**. Run it with ``python3``, not
↳ ``python``.
- Use only the Python **standard library** — no ``pip install`` during the
↳ workshop.
- Before running any shell command, **print the exact command first** and
↳ wait for my approval, even when I am in Default permissions mode.
- Explain what you are doing in plain English. No technical jargon unless I
↳ ask for it.

```
## Don't
```

- Don't touch files outside `~/genai-workshop/``. This folder is my workshop
↳ sandbox.
- Don't install Homebrew or ``npm`` packages without asking me first.

Codex will propose creating the file. Approve. The file appears in the Review pane (and on disk inside your project folder).

Now test that it loaded. Ask:

```
According to this project's AGENTS.md, what language should you use when
↳ writing code, and are there any packages you should not install?
```

The agent should answer based on the **AGENTS.md** you just wrote — proving that the instruction file is in the system prompt, not just sitting on disk.

Step 8 — Your first real task

Time to use Codex for something useful. The task: **inspect this folder and create a workshop-notes file** you will fill in over the next four days.

In the Codex prompt box, send:

First, run ``ls`` to show me what is in this folder.

Then create a file called `notes.md` with this structure:

```
# 2026 DCI Summer Workshop — My Notes
```

```
## Day 1 — What I learned  
(to fill in)
```

```
## Day 2 — What I learned  
(to fill in)
```

```
## Questions for tomorrow  
(to fill in)
```

```
## Random thoughts  
(to fill in)
```

After you create the file, run ``ls`` again so I can see the new file is there.

Codex should:

1. **Propose the `ls` command and pause for approval.** Both because you are in Default permissions mode *and* because your `AGENTS.md` says “print the exact command before running it.” Approve.
2. Show the folder contents — right now just `AGENTS.md`.
3. Propose creating `notes.md`. File writes inside the project are auto-allowed in Default permissions, so this step does not prompt; the new file appears in the **Review pane** on the right for you to inspect.
4. Run `ls` again. Show both `AGENTS.md` and `notes.md` exist.

You can click into any tool call in the chat to expand the command and its output.

Open `notes.md` in your favourite editor (or Finder → right-click → Open With → TextEdit) to verify the structure. **This is the file you will fill in during breaks over the next four days.** Open it now and add one bullet under “Day 1 — What I learned” — anything that has clicked for you so far this morning.

! Important

Watch the agent loop happen. Codex showed you the command before running it, paused for approval, ran it, reported the result, then moved to the next step. Read each step before you approve. This is how you learn what tools the agent actually has.

If you stop noticing what the agent does, you have lost the plot — **delegation is not abdication.**

💡 What if Codex tries to install something?

Your `AGENTS.md` says “no `pip install`” and “ask before installing Homebrew packages.” If Codex tries to install anything during today’s task — **decline and ask why**. This is a teaching moment: `AGENTS.md` does not just sit on disk, it shapes the agent’s behaviour. The `notes.md` task needs no installations.

Coming up in Session 4

In **Session 4 (14:30 — Deterministic vs Non-Deterministic)** you will:

1. Use Codex Desktop to run two scripts that extract Chinese personal names from a small newspaper corpus.
2. See the **regex** approach produce **identical** output across three runs (deterministic).
3. See the **LM Studio API** approach produce **different** output across three runs of the same task (non-deterministic).
4. Learn the **system-prompt vs user-prompt** distinction by making one curl call against LM Studio’s local API.
5. Map the contrast back to the **Four Pillars**, with the *Models* pillar sliding from absent → tiny → bigger.

At the end of Session 4 we set you up to install Git and the GitHub CLI as **homework tonight**. Both are needed for Day 2 morning, where we build and deploy your personal website. Do the homework on hotel Wi-Fi, not in class — the first `git` command on macOS can trigger a ~20-minute Xcode Command Line Tools install dialog, and you do not want to fight conference Wi-Fi for that.

Summary — what you should take away

1. **Know where your files are.** Home folder, the five standard subfolders, the cloud-sync trap, hidden files. This is the prerequisite to every other lesson this week.
2. **Agents = LLM + tools + a loop.** The model is the same family you used in chat; the *harness* around it is much more powerful.
3. **One agent, transferable skills.** Codex, Claude Code, Opencode, and the rest share the pattern — instruction file, MCP, permission flow, sandbox.
4. **Permission modes are the safety story.** Stay in **Default permissions** unless you have a specific reason to switch. Watch what the agent proposes; do not auto-approve.

5. **AGENTS.md is the most important config you write.** A short, opinionated, workflow-oriented file beats a long description of your project. It shapes how the agent behaves before you type a single user prompt.
6. **The agent loop is visible.** Read each step. Delegation is not abdication.

References

- [Codex documentation hub](#)
- [Codex IDE and desktop overview](#) — installation, sign-in, project picker
- [Codex GitHub repo](#) — Apache 2.0
- [Codex quickstart](#)
- [Codex best practices](#) — the four-element prompt: *goal / context / constraints / done-when*
- [Codex AGENTS.md guide](#)
- Simon Willison, [How I think about Codex](#)
- Owain Lewis, [How I Use OpenAI Codex \(real workflow\)](#)