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# INFO 3350/6350: Introduction

Prof. Matthew Wilkens

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# What is this class about?

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# Humanities research with computation

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**Readings are important**

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# Syllabus review

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# Getting help

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# Getting help

- **Ed** is the first-best place to ask questions!
  - You may post **anonymously** (to other students), but staff can always see your name
  - Modest **extra credit** for high-quality participation on Ed, especially answering (correctly) other student's questions
  - Staff wait **24 hours** to respond (by policy) unless the matter is urgent
    - Homework due tomorrow is not urgent
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# Asking good questions

- **More info, carefully curated**, is better than less info
    - What homework? What code? **What are you trying to do?** What output did you get? What did you expect to happen? What error message? Where does the data live? What did you try? What does the documentation say? ...
    - Craft a **minimal example** demonstrating the problem (this often helps you solve it on your own)
  - Remember that TAs (and even professors) are **human**
    - They want to help. **Respect, gratitude, and patience** go a long way.
    - Evidence that you've made an earnest attempt to **solve the problem on your own** also goes a long way.
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# Where to ask good questions

When in doubt -> Ed! Always open, async, monitored, extra credit.

- It's **3am** and my code won't work -> Maybe sleep on it?
  - It's **9am** and my code won't work -> Ed, office hours
  - It's the next day and **no one can figure it out** -> OH (grad)
  - Looking for **project/HW partners** -> Ed, lecture, LSC
  - Thinking about **grad school** -> Office hours (grad, prof)
  - Questions about the **major, classes, or careers** -> OH (prof)
  - I'm **really struggling** (in the class, in general) -> Any staff, any time
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