# Basics1 - Debugging C++

## **Due Date**

- Assignment due on September 21, by Midnight
  - o Grading the following Morning
- Submit program to perforce in your student directory
  - Sub directory called: /Basics1/...
  - o Fill out your **Basics1 Submission Report.pdf** 
    - Check it out and submit to same directory
    - Cut and Paste the contents of <u>ReleaseResults.txt</u> into that report
    - Count how many tests have passed and submit enter into report
    - Enter the final Changelist number of your Basics submission

#### Goals

- C++ Proficiency
  - Real-world debugging and troubleshooting
  - Increasing C++ knowledge and understanding

#### **Assignments**

- General:
  - o Refactor all programs to correctly work in Basics1 solution.
  - o The expected answers are in each problem.
  - o Follow the instructions for each problem
- Background
  - o Each program has some error, but it's not obvious
  - o All programs should compile with Warning level=4 with no compile errors or warnings
  - The big question you will be working on,
    - "Why doesn't my program work correctly?"
  - You will need to look at reference material (books, lectures, etc. )to understand why the code is behaving is an unexpected way.
  - You will need to step through the code, add break points and print statements to help you see what is going on wrong.
  - o DO NOT CHANGE the "focus" of the program to get around the error.
    - Instead leave it and fix the subtle error.
    - If you rework the complete problem instead of fixing the error you are not learning the exercise.
- The solution is in 2013 visual studio.
  - You need to select a individual project to investigate
    - use the "Set as Startup Project" option to restrict one project at a time
  - o Demo in class, to show you how to get this working.
    - Ask questions in Piazza if confused.
    - Project has to be 2013
      - if isn't the whole assignment is a zero
- Issues
  - o Sometimes it works as I single step, but if I run the python test script it crashes or hangs.

- Yes, that's a bug!
  - "What? How can that be?"
- Try to fix, the debugger might be hiding something from you.
  - Dig deep figure it out.
  - Debuggers often do a lot of things that we are not aware of...
    - o Start a Piazza thread with your discoveries
- Testing / Verification
  - I supplied the test scripts in /Scripts\_to\_RunTests directory
  - o I will use for these scripts for the grading of Proficiency project
    - RunDebugTests.bat
    - RunReleaseTests.bat
  - o Those functions generate a single DebugResults.txt and ReleaseResults.txt files to view the complete output in each of the respective directories.
  - o They are there to try,
    - As is, there are errors,
    - Just hit ignore or cancel many times to pound through the script.
- This is for you, do your own work!
  - Feel free to talk with others about setup, version control
    - **DO NOT SHARE** coding ideas on this assignment
  - o Do not copy your friend's code.
    - This is a competition!
  - o If you don't understand....
    - Piazza, piazza, piazza
  - These basics is designed to shake out some understanding that you do or don't know.
    So it personal, each person will have their own issues...
    - Sharing doesn't help YOU!
  - Check in (perforce submit) the problems multiple times.
    - Have reasonable check-in comments
      - For this assignment, I would submit for each sub problem
    - So there are 10, I would expect at least 10 submissions.
      - YES you think you are good, and can do this in one, but get into the habit now of multiple submissions.
- Make sure that your program compiles and runs
  - Warning level 4, some times that is not possible due to MS headers...
  - o Your code should be squeaky clean.
- We are using Perforce
  - o You should have received the document describing how to login.
    - Please look at the documentation on the class website
  - o IP and Port of the server:
    - IP: 140.192.39.61
    - PORT: 1666
  - Submit program to perforce in your student directory
    - Sub directory called: /Basics1/...

## Validation

- Did you do all 10 problems?
- Do they compile and run without any errors?
- Warning level 4 free?
- Submitted it into /Basics1 directory?
- Submitted the <u>Basics1 Submission Report.pdf</u>
- Can you delete you local drive, regrab the Basics1 directory?
  - o Is all the code there?

# Hints

Most assignments will have hints in a section like this.

- Do many little check-ins
  - o Iteration is easy and it helps.
  - o Perforce is good at it.
- Look at the C++ programming language, Effective C++ books
  - o A lot of good ideas in there.