I am Dorian Wang, a 2nd year computer systems engineering student. I am taking CCDP2100 because it is required for engineering, but I don't plan to learn anything. If any learning does occur, it would be great, but it hasn't really happened with this sort of course for me.

While at high school I have tried to avoid most non-verbal forms of communication, so I have very little communication experience. My lack of aptitude in the various forms of communication greatly reduced my grades in most of my classes, barring the math ones.

At Carleton I have taken physics, chemistry, those engineering courses, various calculus classes, linear algebra and plenty of rather easy programming classes. My experience in engineering feels rather empty, mostly because I can't remember most of the time spent.

I prefer group assignments only when the task involves a presentation or essay, as I can offload some of the work of organizing the various ideas I have. Otherwise, the trouble of getting everyone together makes group projects much more stressful.

I can't really confirm that I read chapter 1 and 3, as I don't remember that was in them all that much. There was something about noise, how there is random noise from spelling and grammar mistakes, and how noise makes communication harder. I don't see anything I want to comment on in the course outline, which I guess is one of my problems with writing.

I don't really care all that much about which patent we're doing, but someone liked the windshield wipers, so we're doing that. Some of them I would prefer not to do, because they were bad (and were rejected for being bad), but otherwise I have no preferences.

I can't honestly say I care much about any sort of innovation contest. The most interesting thing I've seen that has something to do with innovation is The Underhanded C Contest (http://www.underhanded-c.org/). It involves coding a program that looks like and claims to do one thing, but actually does another. I haven't found any information on if it is running this year, but a previous prize was \$1000 usd.

I have no good ideas, so I'll go with a fun one. Perhaps organizers can have some big rolls of aluminum foil and some balsa wood, which they use to cover the canal with a shiny new cover. It should have enough gaps so that wind can flow freely and heat can escape, but not so many that they can't be covered when the temperatures increase. A few AC units can be used then.
Regards,
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