**How to Succeed at devCodeCamp**

**Ownership**

* **You get out of this what you put in.** The more time you spend coding and the more time you spend working hard at devCodeCamp, the better the results will be. This is a proven fact that we have seen with hundreds of graduates coming through the course.
* **Instructors are here to provide direction and mentor.** Instructors will provide direction and mentor students while facilitating the learning process. They are experienced, knowledgeable, and love helping others. They specialize in advising students, but it is still up to the students to take responsibility in this endeavor.
* **You come up with the solutions to problems**. Employers are not interested in hand-holding. Instead, they are interested in people who are able to problem solve, ask questions, take direction from those good questions and implement.
* **Follow through with instructor advice.** The instructors are extremely knowledgeable on the subject matter as well as how to deliver it effectively to students. Pick their brains as much as possible and make sure to follow through with their advice.

**Resourcefulness**

Traditional grades K-12 have spoon-fed information to students. However, being a software developer means being resourceful. The instructors use the Internet to research every day when they are writing software.

* **Start Coding Something Out**: There will be times that you don’t fully understand something. In those cases, you need to start coding something out. Even if it isn’t correct, you have something to build off of.
* **Get it working, then make it better**
* **Learn to problem solve:** When you run into a problem and you are not sure the direction to head in, it is recommended for you to do the following:
  + **Break down the problem** Taking large problems and breaking them down into smaller problems is an important part of the problem-solving process. Even though it is not easy at first, being able to break down these problems is how you will eventually become a successful software developer.
  + Be resourceful and **search online** for anything that will help propel you in the correct direction
  + **Time box yourself** when looking online. If a certain amount of time has passed and you aren’t getting anywhere, this is a good time to reach out to an instructor or peer

**Repetition**

* **Patience, persistence, and practice**! Mastering the skill of writing code takes all of these.
* **Embrace the struggle:** No programmer knows all of the answers, not even the instructors. The more you see the concepts and the more you code, the better you will get at coding and the more confident you will become.