Introduction to Database Systems

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Why do you need a database system?

To store data, why not just use a file system?

Advantages of a Database System

- It answers queries fast
 - Q1: among a set of blog pages, find those pages written by Steven Sinofsky after 2011
 - Q2: among a set of employers, increase the salary by 20% for those who have worked longer then 4 years
- Queries (from multiple users) can execute
 concurrently without affecting each other
- It recovers from crash
 - No corrupt data after restart

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Goals

- To use a DB system
- To understand how to write a DB system
 - Architecture
 - Trade-offs

Prerequisites

- Data structure
- Good programming skill
 - OOP (in Java)
 - Multi-threaded programming
 - Project management tools like Git

Syllabus

- Here
 - Subject to change
- Wed 9am-10am: physical + video lecture
- Mon 10am-12pm: labs (TA time)
 - Explain your new assignment
 - Review your pass assignment
- Homework every 2 weeks
 - Not only code
 - But reports summarizing your observations

Grading

- Homework (x5): 50%
- Midterm exam: 25%
- Final project: 25%

FAQ (1/2)

- Do I need to write programs in this course?
 - A lot!
 - We will give extensive coding assignments
- Do I need to write code with others?
 - Yes, 1~3 students a team

FAQ(2/2)

- Do we need to come to the class?
 - No, as long as you can pass
- Is this a light-loading class or heavy-loading class?
 - Should be *heavy* to most students
 - Reserve time, otherwise you will have high chance to fall

Resources

- Text Book
 - Lecture notes
 - Reference links
- Course page
 - http://www.cs.nthu.edu.tw/~shwu
- TODO
 - Register your team

You'll Have a Quiz

- On how to use a DBMS (SQL language)
- Syllabus