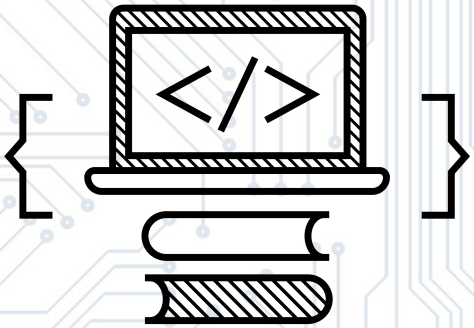


Prepare to learn

Web Development Boot Camp

Lesson 1.1

How to use our Slack channels

- Slack is our main form of communication
  - `#01-general` is for general announcements
  - `#02-ask-the-class` is for asking and answering your peers' questions
  - `#03-resources` is for sharing tools and further reading
  - `#04-shout-outs` is for recognizing
  - `#05-class-repo` - notifications of new content added to class repo
  - `#06-study-groups` is for you all to organize study groups
  - `#07-random` is for fun
  - `#08-office-hours-signup` is for getting help in office hours
- Use threading when appropriate (cuts down on noise)

Announcements - Zoom

- Please change your Zoom user name to the name your signed up with
- When you have a question, use the reactions on the bottom of the Zoom window to raise your hand
- There is no Zoom chat: use Slack
- Please have your cameras on

Why are you here in this class?

Check for a link in the `#01-general` channel

This is a problem solving class.

We use code and technology to create solutions.

Languages and technologies come and go but problem solving doesn’t go away

What should you expect?

Do not expect to get a software job right out of this class

There is no job guarantee

- You are a developer at the beginning of a journey
- Completing the bootcamp accelerates your progress but it is not the end
- You will need to learn how to interview
- You will likely need to learn more skills

Expect to work 12 to 20 hours a week outside of class

I know. It is a real challenge.

There is no “slide by” in this class

This isn’t high school or even college for that matter

- Doing homework in class won’t work
- Plagiarism is not allowed and it is easily discovered
- This is skill-based. Your product either works or it doesn’t
- Project teams are matched based on class engagement
- If you think this will be easy...it won’t be

This s**t is hard

There is good news

Doing hard things is good for you

- It builds confidence
- You gain mental toughness
- You find your potential
- You learn how to deal with pressure

You will learn a lot on your own

We can’t teach everything but we can teach you enough to learn on your own


This Should Be You

You are allowed to not know the answer.

(you are paying for that privilege)

You are allowed to be curious

You are allowed to ask questions

You are allowed to tinker.
Experiment.
Play with these new toys.

You will feel confusion

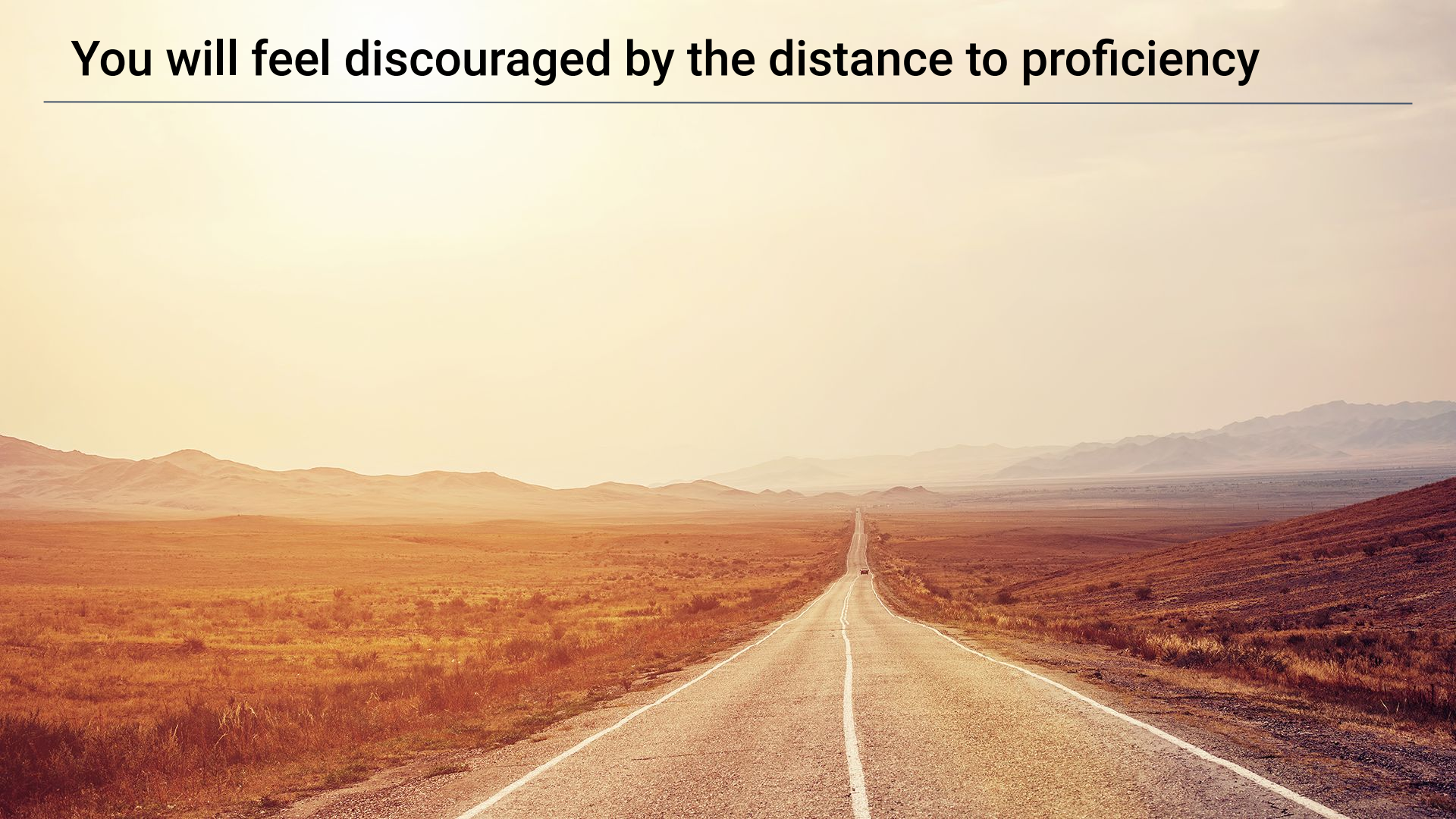
My code doesn't work and I don't know why.

My code works and I don't know why.

You will experience Imposter Syndrome

“Maybe I’m just dumb.”

You will feel discouraged by the distance to proficiency



Full-Stack Development

The Browser	Dev Tools	Server Side
HTML	Render	Templating engines
CSS	Git	Sessions
JavaScript	GitHub	Writing tests
jQuery	**Databases**	Node.js
Bootstrap	Postgresql	Express.js
SEO	MongoDB	Creating APIs
API Interaction		MVC
APIs (Consuming)		User authentication
JSON		ORM (Object-relational mapping)
AJAX		GraphQL
Cutting-Edge Development		**CS Fundamentals**
Progressive Web Applications		Design patterns, Algorithms
React.js		

Get used to feeling frustrated

> You can't tell whether you're learning something when you're learning it—in fact, *learning feels a lot more like frustration*.
>
> What I've learned is that during this period of frustration is actually when people improve the most, and their improvements are usually obvious to an outsider. If you feel frustrated while trying to understand new concepts, try to remember that it might not feel like it, but you're probably rapidly expanding your knowledge.
>
> —Jeff Dickey, author of *Write Modern Web Apps with the MEAN Stack: Mongo, Express, AngularJS, and Node.JS* (Peachpit Press, 2014)

Google Fu:

AI Prompts:

And Remember...

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go with a team.

Study group participation is a strong indicator of success

What do we expect of you?

We expect you to try

Trying looks different for everyone, so try at your own level


I WANNA CODE BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET STARTED!

We expect you to show up

Missing a class here and there is ok. Longer absences are harder to recover from

Let us know what's going on.

Open communication is the best strategy

Cameras should be on at all times

This is how we know you are here and that you are participating in the activities

If that isn’t possible, please let us know

Open communication is the best strategy

Support Team Promise

If you’re willing to put in the time and take our advice, we’re here to help you 100% of the way.

This goes for everyone working on this program:

- Instructors
- TAs
- Student Success Team
- Career coaches
- Everyone else!

What code can I reuse?

Acceptable code reuse

Common forms of reusable code we will use in this class

Examples from documentation (e.g., Mozilla Developer Network)

Blog articles that explain or demonstrate (e.g., how to configure a server, use a library)

API’s (application programming interface)

Frameworks (e.g., Bootstrap)

Stack Overflow

Copying someone else's solution is not-acceptable

That is plagiarism and clearly won't help you in the long run.

Unacceptable code reuse

Forms of plagiarism

Copying code from someone in the class (if you work together, please call it out in comments)

Finding a previous Bootcamp's solution, copying it and slightly modifying it

Finding a tutorial on line

Anything that avoids developing your own solution

What about AI?

A.I. can solve simple problems but using it at this point in your career takes away your opportunity to learn coding as a skill

Advice from former students

Feedback from former students

- It's easy at first but it will get difficult before you know it. Pace yourself and take it slow so you don't burn out.

- Really focus in class, and take advantage of all the resources that are available to you. There is no shame in asking for help and there are no stupid questions. do that and you live up to your full coding potential!

- It is not easy but it is definitely doable. Make or join a study group that will hold you accountable and provide support to make it through the course. Also, utilize the tutor every week, even if you do not need help with the HW use it to review material. Also utilize ASKBCS it is a lifesaver at 1 am when you get stuck on a HW.

- Definitely join/start a study group, and make it a priority. Most weeks we met every night that there was no class, and it was absolutely a huge part of me being successful in this class.

- Show up, it'll be hard and it'll move fast but being present will help Review class videos, redo the challenges, continue showing up.

- i would say dont focus on perfection, its impossible to accomplish perfection, just focus on learning, and remember failing is a big part of learning

- When something breaks, if you aren't making any progress after some time, take a break/walk away from it.

Too many times I've spent hours stuck on a problem, only to go to bed or go to get something to eat, come back, look at problem for 5 mins, then immediately realized the issue/solution.

Feedback from former students

- Use console.log and make comments to breakdown code blocks. Utilize your tutor sessions and the TA's. Create connections with your classmates.

- I learned that this is truly just the 1st step in the journey. There's still a lot out there, and true learning happens over time (which we don't always have). So instead focus on completing what's required for the course, play the long game when it comes to understanding things, ask for help during office hours/breakout rooms, and be sure to make lots of friends along the way.

- Everyone is learning so don’t shy away from **asking questions**. Some days will feel tough but show up and give your best. And **make friends** from the get go, work together you will need that. Finishing the course is so fulfilling it’s worth the commitment.

Feedback from former students

“Learning how to use Google, like, REALLY use Google, is just as important as learning JavaScript or Express or any other technology we learned during boot camp. It's essential!”

“I would tell myself to re-do all the class activities I got stuck on. Do research going into the week on the topics you will be covering that week. And make sure you can answer all the questions in the weekly unit README at the end of the week to make sure you grasped the concepts from that week. I would also tell myself that it’s okay if you have no experience coming in. If you work hard and use your awesome instructional team and all the other resources the bootcamp has to offer you CAN do it!”

Feedback from former students

“ This is not going to be easy at all. But when you feel like you can't do it anymore, KEEP GOING! When you need help, ask for it, stop being so damn prideful. Things that seem easy for everyone else, are going to be hard for you; however, things that seem hard for everyone else will be easy for you. You're going to be fine. Trust what John, Ben and Abdul say. Ask for help, I can’t emphasize this enough. You're going to finish the class and from there, I don't know, but you're about 1,000 steps closer to your goals than you were before.”

Feedback from former students

“This class is a foundation. Don't expect to know any technology fully. The class is a launching point, not a destination. Trust the process, it takes time and requires your constant effort, but it works.”

“it's hard and you know it will be, but it's actually harder than you can imagine. you can get a 2nd tutor, request a change if you don't like your first one!!! I didn't know and i would def been further ahead!!!”

“Ask for help when you need it, don’t wait until the last minute because the material goes by very fast! Also breaks are very important, and you got this!”

Feedback from former students

1. This course is very intense/demanding for some and kind off medium difficult for others. As long as you don't compare yourself and just try to just compete with yourself you will be okay (Something my dad taught me, and I religiously believe in). I think i personally found this bootcamp to be very demanding and if you cant give 4+ hours daily for atleast 5 days a week you can't succeed.
2. Redoing class activities is THE MOST USEFUL THING to keep up with class pace. Practice makes it easier
3. It is okay to not understand a word of some concepts sometimes(Express and REACT hooks) . I panicked and you know that lol but it took me several weeks and hours of bugs to understand just ROUTES !Those classes have now taught me that the stuff we learnt was hard, everybody is different.
4. Next best help is TUTOR and OFFICE HOURS . Try to be there and ask as many questions as you can. Don't care who thinks what of you.
5. Reading DOCUMENTATION of any new topic introduced helps cuz your instructor/TA will not always be there for you.You need to learn by yourself .
6. Completing homework on time helped me panic less and keep up with class pace. I didn't have to worry about pending homeworks during projects and stuff.

Hope this helps and all the very best for your new venture !

Feedback from former students

“The more time you put in coding, the easier it becomes. You can’t just read documentation and listen in class and get it. You may understand the concepts, but to become a better coder, it just takes time and effort. Anything that is “hard” just means you need to dedicate more time to developing the skill.”

Feedback from former students

DO YOUR HOMEWORK AND TURN THEM IN ON TIME

Make friends, persevere, you're not a bad coder you just need a second pair of eyes to solve a simple problem sometimes!

Keep up on HW. Don't be afraid. Be confident. And Dive In!

Don't cry over JavaScript

Yeah, keep on top of HW!!

Coding is an emotional rollercoaster, one minute you will feel like you're on top of the world and the next like you're an idiot and don't know anything. HAVE GOOD STRESS MANAGMENT

Appreciate how cool what you are doing is!

Try to get your hands dirty all the time! Do not stop coding!

Test often and look at every line and EVERY UNDERSCORE AND DASH, would have saved me hours upon hours

if you get stuck. pseudo code or write out step by step what you are trying to do

Commit after every feature/layout change! Even if you don't push it until later, VSCode will have the timeline so you can revert back to something that worked but got taken out along the way.

Feedback from former students

You will feel like you don't know what you're doing, you will feel like you are behind and that you have no idea what's going on, and the TRUTH of this matter is simply that it is NOT the case! My brain seems to focus on what I do not know instead of all the things that I do know, and it makes it seem far scarier than it needs to. I have now graduated and can say with confidence that I can make websites - I STILL feel like I know very little! Keep going!!!

Try to watch a crash code video on the topic before class

Practice coding outside the homeworks, too! Grasshopper, HackerRank, anything to keep yourself thinking of different ways to solve problems

If you can't figure out a bug in an hour, STOP STARING AT IT. Go to bed. It will be so much easier coming back to it with fresh eyes

It may seem hard at first.. but you will eventually get it!

@6 month ago me: go through each line of code and make sure you understand what's happening

You will have imposter syndrome. You will feel inadequate. Just start your homework. That's all I can say. Just start your homework even if you don't know how. Trust the process and with time you will develop the knowledge necessary. Also, turning in a homework on time doesn't mean anything if you don't understand it. Turn it in late if you need to, just understand it.

hang in there, research whatever you don’t understand, don’t be afraid to try, and push through it.

“ I found that once you have the foundation of code logic, you’re good to go.”

Prework

Software Checklist

At this point, you should have all of these installed:

- ☐ Slack
- ☐ Visual Studio Code
- ☐ Git
- ☐ Git Bash (Windows) or Terminal (Mac)
- ☐ Google Chrome

Accounts Checklist

You should also have accounts for:

- GitHub (with SSH Integration)
- Bootcampspot
- git.bootcampcontent.com
- LinkedIn

Self-Check

Let’s do some quick checks of the following:

- Visual Studio Code Check
- Git Bash/Terminal Check
- Git Check