



HACK 101A

Hackathon Fundamentals



KnightHacks & ACM / ACM-W @ UCF

HACK 101A Hackathon Fundamentals



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Hackathon Experience

2019

- UCF – KnightHacks
- USF - Hackabull
- Stetson – HatterHacks
Won – Particle IoT Track
- FIU – ShellHacks
- HackFSU
Won – State Farm 100 for Good
- Georgia Tech - HackGT

2020 Spring

- MIT – RealityHack
Won – Volvo Mobility Track
- UF – SwampHacks
Won – Carnival Cruise Line Track
- Georgia Tech – Hacklytics
Won – Best Use of ML
- HackNYU
- NYU – HackAgainstCOVID
Funded – Twilio Impact Access
- UKY – CatHacks
Won – Best Solo Hack
- Cambridge – CamVsCOVID
Won – 1st Place Overall
- Ryerson – RUHacks
Won - 3rd Place Overall
- OxfordHack

2020 Fall

- John Hopkins – MedHacks
Mentor / Judge
- UPenn – PennApps
Mentor / Top 10 & Top 3 Judge
- HackMIT
Mentor / Judge
- FIU - ShellHacks*
Mentor
- UCF - KnightHacks
Mentor / Judge
- Georgia Tech - HackGT*
Mentor

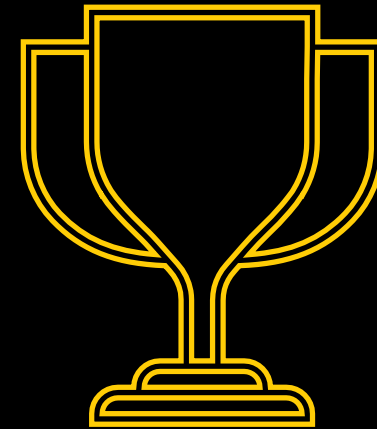
Hacking Spirit: The Hacker Way

"Hacking is an approach to problem solving.
It is both humble and optimistic in its conviction
that anything that has been built,
even by the hacker herself,
can be improved."

- Andrew 'Boz' Bosworth, Head of Facebook Reality Labs

“Hackathons are for the highly experienced”

- Hackathons are about winning
- Hackathons are about prizes / prestige
- Hackathons are the ultimate cutthroat competition



Hackathons are For Everyone

- Meet Fascinating People
- Visit New Places
- Create Cool Projects
- Play With Cutting-Edge Tech
- Learn New Skills
- Free Food / Swag
- Social Events
- Advance Your Career
- Win Prizes
- Friendly Competition

Winning Prizes



Remember there's more to hackathons than winning!



Friendly Atmosphere



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Collaboration



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Fun / Social Events



Meet Fascinating People / Visit New Places

- Meet People From All Over
- Visit Other Cities / Campuses



Cutting Edge-Technology

- Discover What You're Passionate About
- Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality
- Data Science / Machine Learning
- Internet of Things



Learn New Skills

- Mentors
- Workshops
- Peers



Free Food



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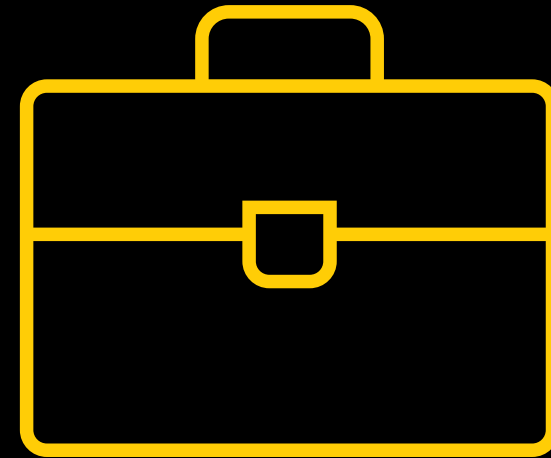
Swag

- Shirts!
- Badges
- Water bottles



Advance Your Career

- Career Fair
- Projects on Resume
- Sponsors / Judges



Admissions Process

- Apply Early!
- Travel Reimbursement Deadlines
- Resume
- Short Answer Questions
- Shirt Size / Address
- Diet Restrictions

Traveling to Hackathons

Driving

- Travel Reimbursement for Gas
- Carpooling – Road Trip!

Flying

- No Travel Reimbursement*
- Closing Ceremony Delays

Typical Hackathon Schedule

Friday

- Travel to Hackathon
- Check-in
- Opening Ceremony
- Team Formation
- Sponsor / Career Fair
- Sleep

Saturday

- Hacking
- Social Events
- Workshops
- Sleep

Sunday

- DevPost Submission
- Judging
- Closing Ceremony
- Go Home

Team Formation

- Two Approaches:
 - Start with Idea – Build Team
 - Start with Team – Build Idea
- Diversity is Key:
 - Different Technical Skills
 - Subject Matter Experts



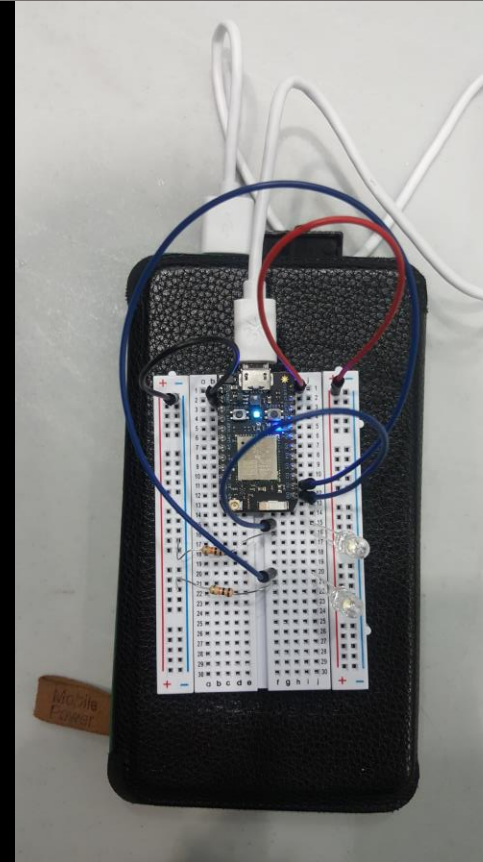
Ideation - FPS

- Frustration
- Problem
- Solution



Scope - MVC

- Minimum Viable Concept
- Does this feature help demonstrate the core idea?



The Tools to Build Your Idea

Frontend

- Web
- Mobile - Android / iOS
- Desktop
- Hardware
- Low Code / No-Code / Figma

Backend

- Cloud – AWS / GCP / Azure / IBM / OCI
- Node.js / Flask / Django
- Machine Learning / Data Science
- Kaggle Datasets
- Tensorflow / SciKit-Learn

Judging Formats

In-Person

- Expo / Science Fair Style
- Presentation Style

Virtual

- Submission Video
- Expo / Science Fair Video Rooms



What Judges Look For

- Impact
- Feasibility
- Technical Difficulty
- Novelty



Upcoming Hackathons (Digital)

FIU – ShellHacks

September 25th – 27th

<https://shellhacks.net/signUp>

**SHELL
HACKS**

UCF - KnightHacks

October 9th – 11th

<https://knighthacks.org/register>

<https://knighthacks.org/discord>

 **KNIGHT
HACKS**



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Hackathon Fundamentals

HACK 101A - Q & A

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