

Welcome to WDI!

On Timing

Be on time

Being on time is key to your success! Being early to work on things with your classmates before class begins is even better

Stay late

Make this 3 months count. Don't be afraid to stay in the office until 9 or 10pm working on problems with your classmates - that's why we have coffee and snacks!

We can also text you a key to our door.

Systems to Help You

- Canvas
- Panopto

Where to go when you need help

- First stop - your classmates! They're probably struggling as well and you can work through it together
- Your instructor is next up. If class isn't in session, send them an e-mail
- Finally, Zach can help too! zach@nycda.com or just send him an e-mail to schedule an appointment. Sometimes he can take walk-ins =), try a HipChat message

What to Learn Before You Learn to Program

**Or, "how I learned to stop worrying and <3 the
computer"**

Don't be afraid

- Welcome to your first day of learning to program!
- Believe it or not, every developer ever had this day
- Don't be nervous, we're here to support and help you on your journey!

Things to keep in mind

- People learn at different paces - just because the person next to you gets the concept, doesn't mean you necessarily will
- Be bullish getting the help you need early on - not in a way to disrupt other students or the instructor, but make sure you don't "fall off the boat"
- There will always be workshopping time in every class - this is where you should ask the most questions

How to research programming problems

- Getting help from your instructor isn't the only way to increase your learning potential
- Before asking an instructor, try helping yourself - then don't be afraid to get help if you need it!
- Let's take a look together at solving a basic programming problem and how we could tackle looking this up online:
- "How do I change the text color of an HTML element on screen?"

Be ambitious

- Just because you understood what happened in class tonight and were able to write a basic web page...
- ...why not go home and create 3 more?
- Programming is one thing in life that you'll get back what you put into it
- Extra practice is a great way to solidify the fundamentals
- If you're not coding right now, somebody else probably is...always be working on projects

The best way to learn is to teach others

- Outside of your instructors and the internet, one of your best resources is sitting right next to you - your fellow students!
- Asking your fellow students how to do something is mutually beneficial
- One of the best ways to learn something is to teach it to somebody else - so help each other and everyone will benefit!

Paired Programming

- Paired programming is a great way to learn!
- Tackle a problem with another student, take turns "driving" the machine for 5-10 minutes at a time
- Two heads are better than one.
- You're almost always welcome to tackle problems and exercises in pairs.

Re-do assignments

- At NYCDA, students are encouraged to resubmit assignments for further instructor review
- This is a great way for you to add on to your knowledge! Your instructor will grade your assignment and tell you exactly what to change/how to learn from your mistakes.
- You should aim to have a 10/10 on every assignment by the end of the course - there's no reason not to and all it can do is help

Put in the time

- We understand all of you have jobs, families, and commitments outside of this program.
- To get the maximum benefit of the program however, ensure that you put in at least 3-5 hours a week outside of class to make sure you're keeping up with the material

Have fun!

- Programming can make you extremely frustrated, but never forget that the ultimate goal is to give you an amazing toolset to further express yourself to your fellow human beings.
- Keep in mind this ultimate goal as you spend long evenings coding and solving problems =)
- We're always here for you along the way. E-mail zach@nycda.com with questions or concerns or just step into our office - our door is always open!