CS 329E - Elements of Mobile Computing

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SwiftUI



SwiftUI

SwiftUI is an innovative and simple way to build user interfaces using a *declarative* syntax.

- With imperative programming, we tell the program what to do and how to do it.
- With declarative programming, we tell the program what to do, but not how.

Declarative Programming

- does not involve control flow.
- describes what needs to happen: it presents a desired outcome called *state*, and leaves the implementation up to another program or framework.

A good example of a declarative language is HTML.

- HTML (and CSS) are used to build Web pages by providing markup and styling rules.
- You don't use HTML to draw pixels on a screen, or tell a browser how to render your web page. Instead, you tell it what components to put on the screen, and leave the rest to your browser.

Adding UIKit objects to SwiftUI

To use UIView subclasses from within SwiftUI, you wrap the other view in a SwiftUI view that conforms to the UIViewRepresentable protocol.

UIViewRepresentable is a protocol that allows us to use UIKit objects that have not yet been natively integrated into SwiftUI. It requires us to implement two methods:

- makeUIView(): responsible for the creation of our UIView
 as well as providing it to SwiftUI in a compatible some View
 format allowed by the SwiftUI protocol.
- updateUIView(): invoked whenever our UIView needs to be updated to reflect a change in the user interface (a bit like the body property we saw in SwiftUI native objects).