Slide 1

today is
January 11 Week 2
agenda

welcome back!

- ❖ questions/unfinished business
- ❖ information stories of the week
- ❖ Final Project notes
- ❖ last week's lectures: what stayed, questions
- ❖ systems, diversity & equity
- ❖ the week to come

reminder: office hours by appointment today 5-6:30 PT,
*   open Thursday 10:30-12 PT*

*Please for now have **microphones muted***
*Use the **Chat** feature (bottom of your screen) to type in questions or issues*

Slide 2

a few additional notes and comments/ how to learn more, how to do well

- watch lectures, do readings
- think about lectures, readings
- fill in surveys
- attend live sessions, engage in breakouts
- apply what you're learning in other settings

Top Sessions

Session	Views and Downloads	Minutes Delivered	Average Minutes Delivered	Unique Viewers
Week 1 Lab Intro - Jobs	257	461.7	1.8	257
Lecture 1.1 - Welcome and Introduction	271	6904.5	25.5	180
Lecture 1.2 Welcome and Introduction	214	4505.2	21.1	184
Lecture 2.1 - IT Landscape	233	8795.1	37.7	154

Slide 3

The New York Times
The 2020 Good Tech Awards

When you start to pull your hair out because you can't register for a vaccine on a local website, remember that it's not (only) the fault of a bad tech company or misguided choices by government leaders today. It's a systematic failure years in the making.

US DIGITAL RESPONSE

https://www.usdigitalresponse.org/our-work/

technosylva

https://technosylva.com/products/

Our Data Bodies

https://www.odbproject.org/about/what-we-are-doing/

Slide 4

Final Project notes

it's a team/group project   *how will you work together?*
"information resource"   *think broadly*
"community"   *think broadly*

Step 1 Problem Statement includes:
- group to serve/work with   *think broadly*
- **their** information problems   *think broadly*
- why it's important
- research
- logistics

What is informatics?/diversity what stayed

- What is informatics -> which more so led me to the contemplation of **what is not informatics**, which is very little. Informatics is the connection of humans to technology.
- informatics is an **interaction of information, technology, and people, and interacts with many fields such as communications or sociology.**
- **diversity in technology!** I have always thought of the gender aspect of a IT career as motivation rather than a set back
- I think it was really interesting to learn about **how applicable informatics is to every part of life.**
- I had the same issues that were mentioned about not knowing **what to answer when you are asked** this question by a family member or friend. This just stuck out to me more because I related to it.
- Diversity and implicit bias are two things that have and I'm sure will stick with me throughout my education. Reading that article by Amy Ko was really eye opening as well. It made me realize that **every space needs people continuing to fight for equity.** I sometimes think that because this is a place of higher learning that it is somehow above the curve. That this space is the one where people are always asking the hard questions and challenging status quos that to find there is still some very short sighted spaces of thinking is almost a bit surprising to be honest. It definitely makes me want to challenge myself more to make more time for me to be learning from other's perspectives.
- The idea that stuck the most with me from lectures this past week was the IT landscape lectures. Learning about the various career opportunities and specifically, the part of lecture talking about the reason students going into informatics stuck with me. As someone who has had constant pressure from my family to go into certain fields and having different interests in various topics, **my plan of what I want to study hasn't been very clear.** But learning about what informatics is so far and the various careers that I could pursue from it make me drawn to it. I'm still figuring out what I want to do so I hope after I finish this course, I'll have a more clear plan in mind.

What is informatics? what stayed

- I think something that stuck out to me was the emphasis on how although there are technical elements in informatics, it also includes **vital soft skills** that are important in industry. It's about how in your job you won't necessarily be coding 24/7, you are working on a team and you therefore have to sometimes communicate technical topics to someone who doesn't specialize in that.
- I think the idea that the **technology improves the world and our society**, which I find really intriguing. Also, I liked the video in women in informatics because it showed how diverse the major is.
- The diversity in technology topic definitely stuck with me the most out of the lectures this week, maybe because it was the most recent and I think a potential factor being that it effects me as **I am a woman interested in pursuing a technology field.**
- I think the diversity in technology was the term that stuck out to me because I always think about the **different identities I hold as an individual,** what what my power and privileges I hold as a cis-gendered, Asian-American man. It's very saddening that many STEM focused majors and work environment still hold up to this false notion of "only men belong in STEM" as well as not allowing those who are systemically at a disadvantage to succeed.
- **I was shockingly surprised at how interested I was in the first lecture.**

What is informatics? questions

- I feel like there's more to informatics I don't quite get yet.
- How do information systems differ from informatics?
- How can I be an active participant in the informatics community (except WINFO)?
- I wonder if this course is more about coding or about the social matters relate to informatics.
- How exactly could I use an info minor if my major is rather different and not connected with info (I'm majoring in biology right now)? Or rather, would just an info minor be enough for me to get a starting job in info after I graduate? I love biology and don't want to switch my major, but I'm just now realizing that I like info too (I'm a junior) and want to complete a minor in it and possibly look into careers in info.
- Why are STEM fields (Technology in particular) such as informatics highly sought after these days? Pros and cons about it, and what significance, roles and responsibility do INFO department and UW as a whole have in this trend?
- I wanted to know a little more about some opportunities would look like at nonprofits companies?

What is informatics? questions

- why are the professors so cool? lol
- also why informatics became a major on its own even when it has similar concepts to other majors.
- It is still not a easy thing for me to explain what informatics is to my friends and family.
- How was Kabir able to pick himself back up after failing his first two companies?
- I'm still wondering, comparing to computer science or computer engineering, since informatics covers more contents in the humanity area, would that mean informatics is less deep into the technological aspect and therefore has a disadvantage in work places that requires more technological skills such as software engineering or web developer?
- Will we have a career fair from time to time?
- What is the story behind Professor Janes touching Abraham Lincoln's bible?

Lincoln's first inaugural bible
1861 (Bible printed 1853)

diversity & inclusion questions

How have companies strived to implement diversity in their companies? How have they tackled the problem of "reverse racism"? (the backlash that occurs from other qualified candidates that may be rejected due to the diversity initiative)

how are people's implicit bias hold the big industries back?

Diversity in technology is an interesting topic. At first, I thought the lectures made some pretty good points. Women in computer science has been decreasing, but in other STEM fields they have been increasing. Therefore, it would be reasonable to push for more women in STEM, not just computer science. The 'bro culture' hypothesis makes sense, as a lot of women don't want to get overwhelmed. Recruitment through Hollywood film is probably effective.

However, I am not sure if people care enough. Diversity programs are practically the same as they were in the 1960s. Representation in management from minorities has barely moved. Millions of dollars are spent on diversity and inclusion efforts through trainings, seminars, scholarships, and bureaucracy to solve the problem. Yet, there is no solution. Most of the people that are passionate about trainings are junior women. For everybody else, it is more of a sword of Damocles or a source of friction.

Corporations are probably using it as a PR stunt. For example, Google donated 12 million dollars to BLM after George Floyd's death, but there has recently been a lot of buzz around the firing of Timnit Gebru.

Is there a better way to implement diversity in the workplace? Is it possible that competition to look like the most inclusive company actually makes the problem worse? What are potential options to improve gender relations in computer science?

what is a system?

49	together	7	multiple	4	mechanism
31	parts	6	can	4	part
30	things	6	interconnected	3	actions
27	work	6	order	3	aspects
25	something	6	people	3	big
23	working	6	perform	3	combination
16	goal	6	purpose	3	contains
16	group	6	structure	3	efficiency
14	different	6	thing	3	efficiently
14	set	6	words	3	entities
12	achieve	5	bunch	3	factors
12	organized	5	defined	3	functions
11	whole	5	information	3	kind
10	define	5	interact	3	lot
10	one	5	interacting	3	made
10	process	5	network	3	makes
10	works	5	outcome	3	needs
9	specific	5	tasks	3	organize
8	certain	5	towards	3	pattern
8	collection	4	another	3	processes
8	create	4	common	3	produce
8	many	4	complete	3	rules
8	task	4	complex	3	series
8	think	4	design	3	small
8	way	4	even	3	solution
7	components	4	form	3	unity
7	function	4	groups		
7	make	4	ideas		

equity

breakout groups

groups of about 4 | 8 - 10 minutes

cameras and microphones on (if possible)

say hi, name, where you are

and then discuss:

- **what would a more *equitable*, more *just* information world look like?**

link to shared Google doc in chat, choose 1 person to record for the group

the week to come

- **lecture 3** on the Information Perspective
- **lecture 4** on Information Behavior
- lab on information behavior
- questions to bear in mind for the week:

Is there anything that couldn't possibly be informing, ever?

Why does "information behavior" matter?