

This guide will provide an overview of the strategies employed in the Joe Blatt Group Maker as well as step-by-step instructions on how to use it. The code [can be found here](#).

## General Idea and Strategy

This preliminary version of the group maker is meant to increase the efficiency of grouping students together for projects in Joe Blatt's HT123 and beyond.

This version digitizes Prof. Blatt's paper survey, and automatically creates groups of students by matching interests and diversifying skills. It also uses a small amount of [natural language processing](#) to refine groupings.

## Step-by-Step Instructions

*This is as specific as possible. Please [refer to the code](#) as you read.*

### Preparing

1. The code in github is an [r shiny app](#). You'll need RStudio to run it.
2. This app requires the use of [Google Forms](#).

### Do it

1. Create a google form for students to fill out. It is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that the form has questions in the following order:
  - a. Name (short answer)
  - b. Master's Program (dropdown list)
  - c. Interest (multiple choice)
  - d. Names of people you'd like to work with (short answer)
  - e. What do you want to get out of this class? (short answer)
  - f. Strengths (multiple choice grid)
    - i. This list can be created in the moment, but should be complete before students are sent the form.

For reference, [please review this existing template](#).

2. Have students fill out the form.
3. In Google Forms, go to the responses tab and click "view responses in sheets". This will take you to a google sheet with all the students' answers. Download the sheet as a .csv file.
4. In RStudio, run the file app.R (In the future, the app [should be hosted online](#)).
5. Upload the .csv file to the app, and adjust group sizes as necessary.
6. Download the group data.