

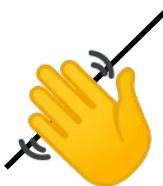


nwTalks

Anita & Ariel from nwPlus



Hey there



I'm Anita!



Co-President of nwPlus



5th Year @ UBC



Faculty of Science - Computer Science



Lord Byng Secondary alumni



Hey there



I'm Ariel!



cmd-f* Logistics Coordinator



4th Year @ UBC



Faculty of Arts - Major in Visual Arts,
Minor in Computer Science

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Burnaby North Secondary alumni



Agenda

1. All about Hackathons
2. Life in CS Beyond North
3. Questions?
 - a. Let us know if you have Q's at any point of the presentation!

All about hackathons

Some fun facts about what we do...



What is a Hackathon?



hack·a·thon

/'hakə,THän/

noun

INFORMAL

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hack·a·thon

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noun

INFORMAL

What does a Hackathon mean to you?

- + A place for people to come together to code something, i.e. an app, a website, etc.
- + Meet mentors and sponsors
- + Drink lots of energy drinks
- + Get involved with the tech community

What is a Hackathon?

As quoted from [Major League Hacking](#):

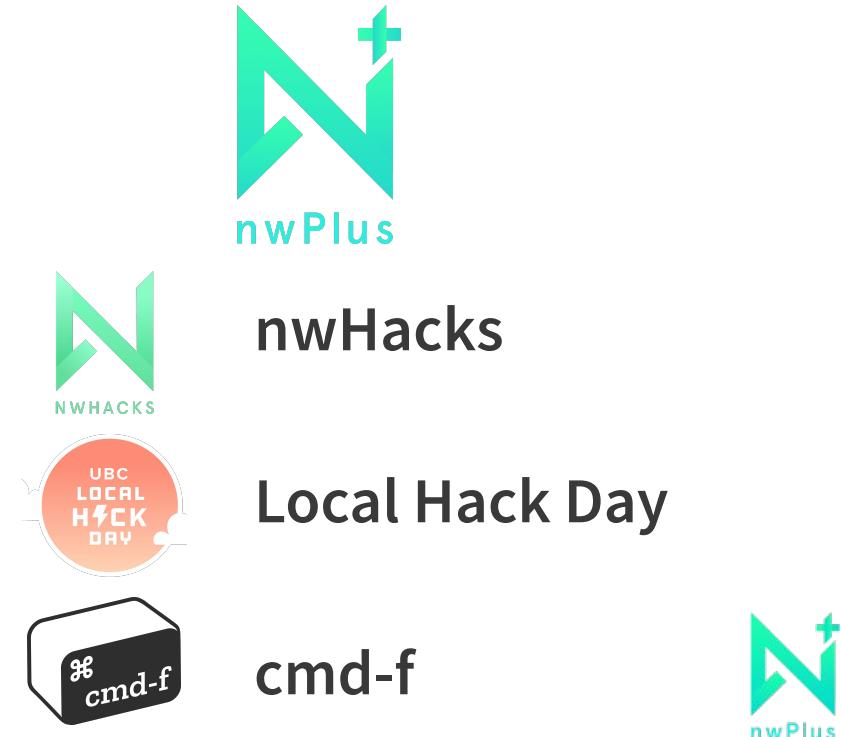


“A hackathon is best described as an ‘invention marathon’. Anyone who has an interest in technology attends a hackathon to **learn, build & share** their creations over the course of a weekend in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. You don’t have to be a programmer and you certainly don’t have to be majoring in Computer Science.”

What is nwPlus?

Our core values:

- + Bridge connections
- + Empower skill-building
- + Approach tech as a tool



Still don't get hackathons?

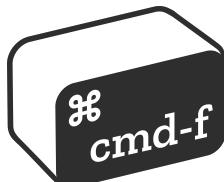
→ Participate in one!



- + November 30, 2019, 12-hours, 300+ hackers, 4th year of LHD
- + Focuses on diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility for **beginners** in tech
- + MLH's largest *Local Hack Day 2018* in North America



- + January 11-12, 2020, 24-hours, 700+ hackers, 6th year of nwHacks
- + Focuses on bringing **diverse hackers** from all backgrounds/skill levels
- + Largest hackathon in Western Canada & the Pacific Northwest



- + March 7-8, 2020, 24-hours, 150+ hackers, 2nd year of cmd-f
- + Focuses on empowering **gender minorities** in STEM
- + 1st and only all-female* hackathon in Vancouver

We always use * to specifically and intentionally include cis and trans women, and non-binary, agender and intersex people



Still don't get hackathons?

→ Participate in one!



September
Lumohacks - SFU, Burnaby



February
BizHacks - UBC



October
Dubhacks - UW, Seattle



February
BC Game Jam - BCIT



January
LiteHacks - UBC eProjects



March
Battlesnake - Victoria



...and more at <http://mlh.io> !

Why go to hackathons?

- + Meet and learn from other hackers
- + Meet industry mentors
- + Grab free swag and free food
- + Learn new skills
- + Build your portfolio
- + Win prizes



Rundown of a Hackathon

Before Hacking Begins:

- + Grab all the swag!
- + Meet with sponsors
- + Form your team (if you haven't done so already)
- + Watch the opening ceremony



Rundown of a Hackathon

During Hacking:

- + You have 12-36 hours to build a project from scratch together with your team (check hackathon for rules)
- + Eat lots of snacks and food!
- + More swag + sponsors
- + Attend workshops
- + Participate in mini activities



Rundown of a Hackathon

After hacking:

- + Demo your project to judges and other participants
- + Watch the closing ceremony and see all of the winning hacks



Hacks + Criteria

Hacks you may see:

- + Alexa skills, hardware hacks, chat bots
- + Hacks using APIs (Spotify, computer vision)
- + Hacks should “solve a problem”

How your hack might win

- + Sponsored prize criterias
- + Having a killer demo!



But ultimately.. It's the learning experience that matters!

Still not confident enough to hack? Volunteer instead!

- + Volunteering is a great way to watch how hackathons work while helping out!
- + Also a great opportunity to mingle with the organizing team and see what goes behind the scenes to make these events run so smoothly



Life in CS beyond North

UBC, Courses, Clubs, Ariel's thoughts



Ways to do CS @ UBC

- + **Faculty of Arts**
 - + Major/Minor in Computer Science (CPSC)
 - + Major/Minor in Cognitive Systems (COGS)
- + **Faculty of Science**
 - + Major/Minor/Honours/Combined Major in CPSC
 - + Major/Minor/Honours/Combined Major in COGS
- + **Sauder School of Business**
 - + Combined Major in Business & CPSC (BUCS)
- + **Faculty of Applied Sciences**
 - + Major/Minor/Honours in Computer Engineering (CPEN)

CS @ North

- + **AP Computer Science**
 - + w/ Janetka
 - + Extremely helpful for 210
 - + If you score 4 or 5, you can take a challenge exam to skip 110
 - + Recommended if you are good at self-learning
- + **Take advantage of HS resources!**



My Hackathon Story

+ Participate in Hackathons

- + Didn't know anything until 1st year
- + 4 hackathons in a year
- + Diverse team make-up
- + Learned about industry tools & networked w/ mentors
- + Ended up doing really well!



1st Place @ BizHacks 2017



1st Place @ EduHacks 2017



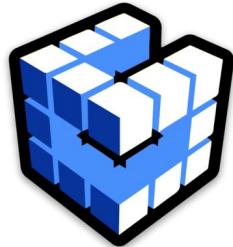
Scotiabank Prize @ nwHacks 2018



CalHacks 2017



Some CS related Clubs



{CSSS}



UBC LAUNCH PAD



UBC BIZTECH

UBC ROCKET



ece

and so many more...



CS Class Structure

- + (THREE 1-hour-long lectures/week or TWO 1.5-hour-long lectures/week) + ONE 3-hour-long lab/week
 - + Lectures have ~250 people
 - + Labs have ~30 people
- + Can ask questions during TA or Prof office hours

Lower Level CS Classes

- + **110:** functional programming in Dr. Racket
- + **121:** logic & models of computation
- + **210:** software construction in Java
- + **213:** intro to software architecture, operating systems, and I/O architectures (C++ & Assembly)
- + **221:** Basic Algorithms and Data Structures (C)

Questions?

Ask away!

