

# Enrolled or on waitlist?

Welcome to



# Not enrolled or on waitlist?

It is unlikely we can add many more seats,  
but you can request to join using this link  
or scan the QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/comp110waitlist>



# Today's Goals

Introductions

What is the course about?

What are the instructional and workload expectations?

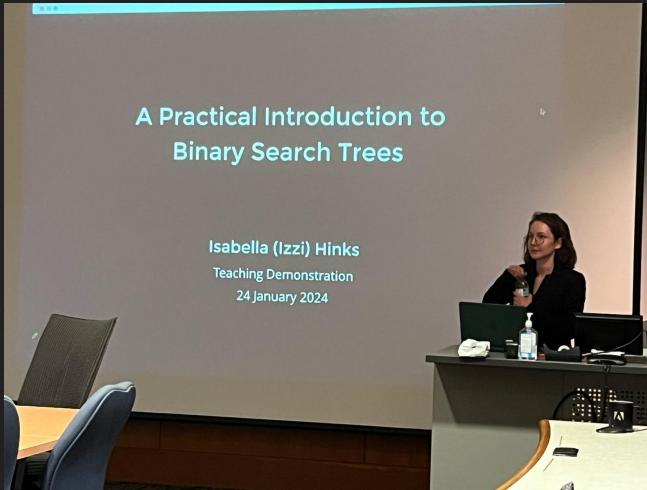
Logistics?

Homework

An introduction to coding (if time)

# About me (Dr. Isabella (“Izzi”) Hinks)

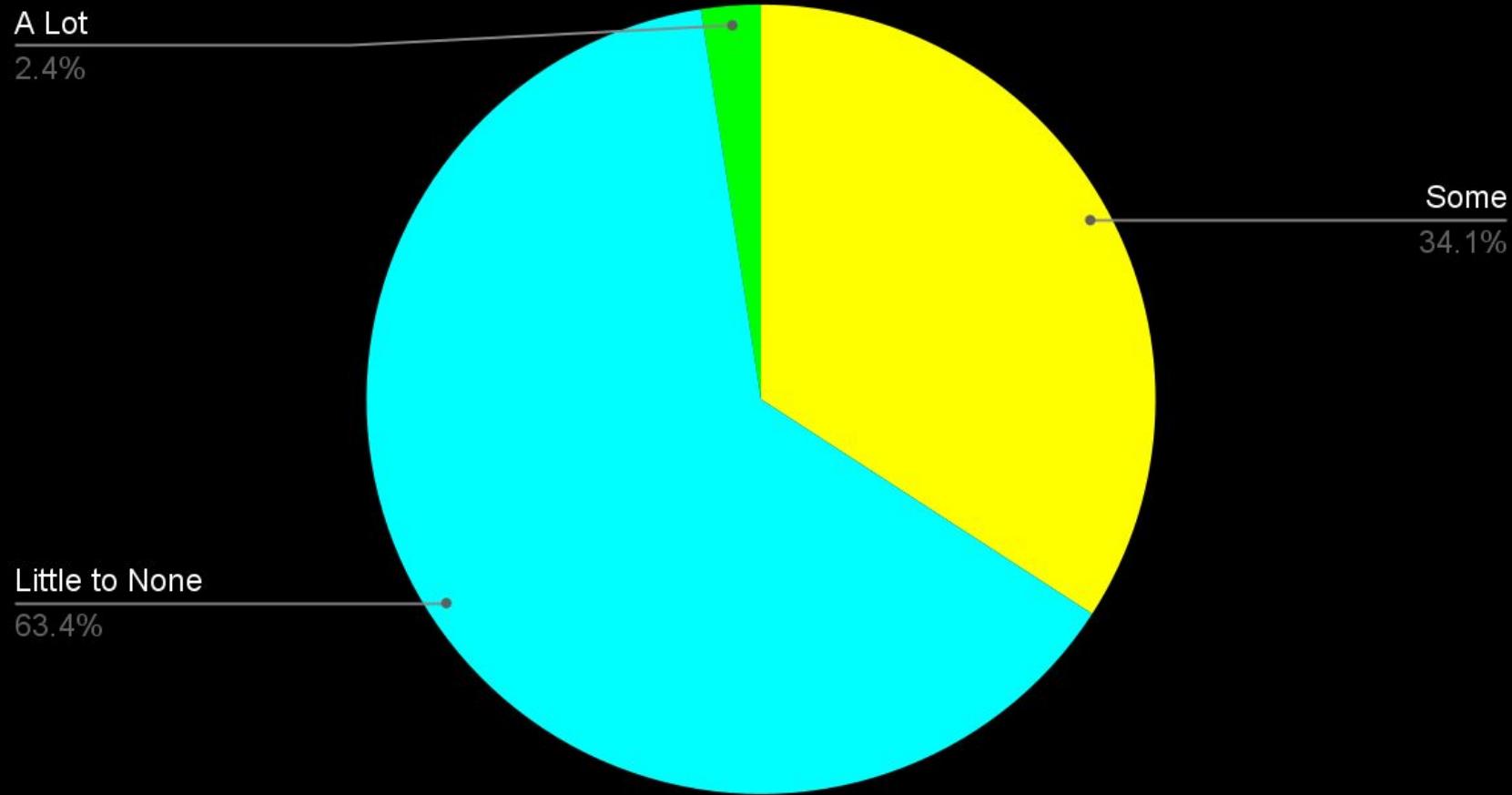
- Originally from Apex, NC
- Did my undergrad at UNC!
- PhD @ NC State University
- COMP110 student → UTA → work, grad school... → **Professor**



# The Real MVPs: Your UTA Team!

- This course would be **impossible** for all of us, if not for them
- THE absolute best UTA team at Carolina. You will ❤️ them
- This team can do it all: they'll help teach you concepts you're struggling with, guide review sessions, create study guides, build exercises, and more
- Drop-in, in-person office hours will be available to you for over 36 hours per week starting Thursday!

# TA's coding experience before taking COMP110



Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who is a **freshman/sophomore**?

Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
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Who is a **junior/senior+**?

Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who is **not an undergrad**?

Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who is coming into this course with ***no programming experience***?

Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who is coming into this course with **a little programming experience**?

## Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who is coming into this course with *a lot of programming experience*?

Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who **is not** planning to major in computer science?

Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

Who **is** planning to major in computer science?

## Who else is in **COMP110** with you?

- Be prepared to stand/raise your hand if I call out an affinity group you belong to
- After peers stand, we'll *clap to celebrate their presence in the course!*

You are a **capable and diverse group!**

# Zero Programming Experience Expected

- This course assumes *no* prior programming experience
  - (But some experience is OK!)
- COMP110 is a *rigorous* introduction to programming
  - 3 hours of lecture/lessons per week
  - and ~9 hours of practice/coursework

# Course Objectives

- You will learn the **fundamentals of programming**
  - Using common tools and techniques used by software engineers
  - Universal concepts that **apply to nearly all programming languages**
  - You will leave knowing what it feels like to be a programmer
- You will gain practice with **computational thinking**
  - **Thinking algorithmically** while breaking down problems step-by-step
  - Thinking at varying levels of **abstraction** by describing problems & solutions abstractly and precisely
- *Full curriculum linked in syllabus!*

# Course Website

<https://comp110-26s.github.io/>

(Syllabus and course agenda on there!)

# Grading Breakdown

- 45% - Preparation, Practice, Participation
  - 30% - (EX) Programming Exercises
  - 5% - (LS) Async Lesson Responses on Gradescope (Graded for Correctness)
  - 5% - (CQ) In-class Challenge Questions (Graded for Correctness)
  - 5% - (CL) In-class Participation (Graded for Completion)
- 55% - Mastery
  - 40% - 4x Quizzes
  - 15% - Final Exam

## Quizzes

Quizzes are in person, with pencil and paper, during your section's lecture time. You are only permitted to be absent for one quiz.

*NO MAKEUPS unless you have a university-approved excuse!*

All dates are on the course website!  
For full policies, see syllabus.

# CQs, Exercises, + Autograding

- Come to class for CQs, and start exercises EARLY!
- You can re-submit to the autograder without penalty before the due date
- If you do not get full credit, stop and think about what might be causing a test to fail. Try again!
- Be careful to avoid a frustrating loop of "tweak one small thing, resubmit, tweak one small thing, resubmit, ..."
  1. The autograder gives you feedback – see if you can reproduce the error!
  2. If you find yourself stuck in this loop, stop by office hours (SN 008)

# Use of AI

- AI tools like ChatGPT can be very useful in programming, but it takes a **trained eye** to use them properly!
- In this class, *you are training your eyes* to learn the fundamentals, so using AI will only hinder your understanding and won't strengthen you as a programmer!
- Considered a violation of the honor code.

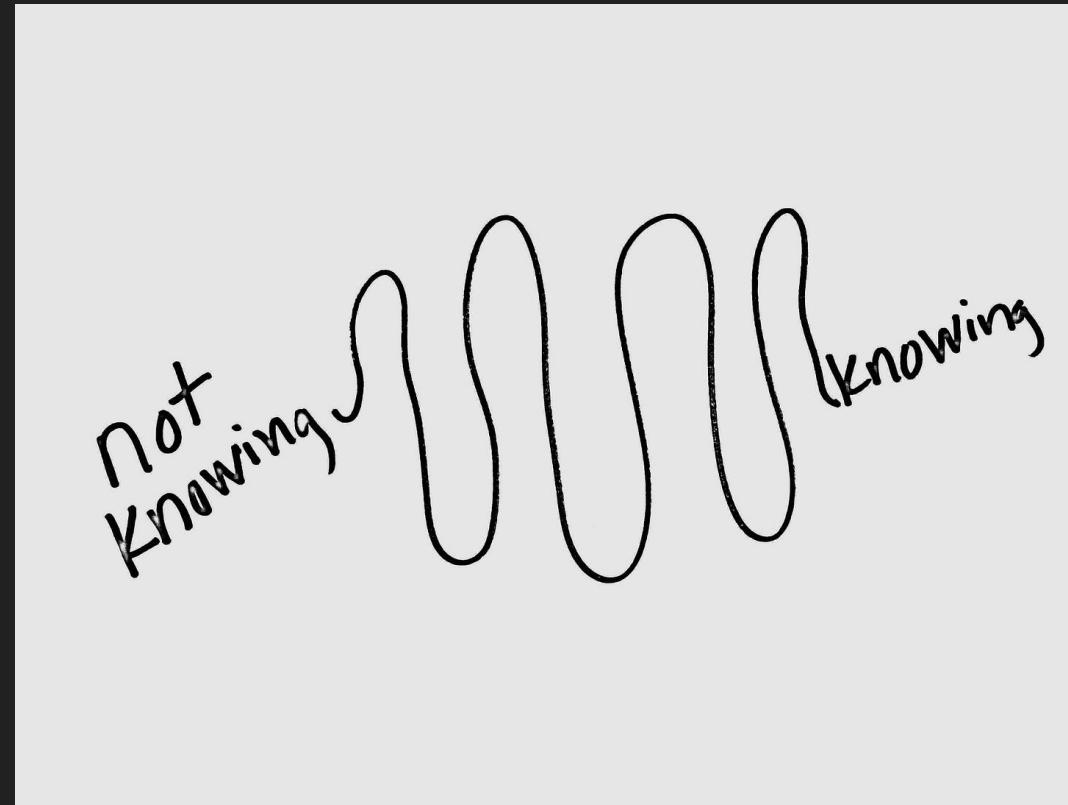
# Programming is a Practiced Skill

- Like playing an instrument, painting, writing cursive letters, dancing, singing, sports, wood working, quilting, and so on....

**Time spent individually practicing is the key to success.**

- This is *very different* from courses that are knowledge-based!
- The team and I want you to succeed in learning how to program, so we structure everything we do toward helping you practice individually.
- *Know what every line of your code is doing!*

# Programming is a Practiced Skill



# Computer Scientists are Toolsmiths



“The *programmer*, like the poet,  
works only slightly removed from  
**pure thought-stuff.**

(S)he builds castles in the air, from air,  
creating **by exertion of the imagination.**

Few media of creation are  
so flexible  
so **easy to polish** and **rework**  
so **readily capable** [...]”

- Fred Brooks

How do *you* believe programming will be valuable toward achieving *your* personal goals?

*Why* are you in this course?

Think for a minute, introduce yourself to your neighbor(s) and discuss, then we'll share.

# Homework - by tomorrow night!

- Ready Syllabus and Support on Course Page
- Complete Lesson 00 (LS00) on Gradescope
  - Due tomorrow at 11:59pm
- Update your computer's operating system
  - Instructions are posted under the Resources section
- Install required software

# Open House: Thursday and Friday

- Hours
  - 11am – 5pm
- Sitterson Hall (SN) - Go downstairs to SN008
- Get help installing course software!
- Introduce yourself and meet some great people on the team!



# Office Hours

- Official Office Hours begin Thursday, Jan 15
- Hours:
  - Mondays-Fridays: 11am-5pm in SN008
  - Sundays: 1-5pm in SN008
- We use the [CS Experience Labs \(CSXL\) website](#)
- General Rules:
  - Must submit a ticket to be seen
  - Limited to 15 minutes and one specific question per appointment
  - Completely lost? *Try tutoring!*

# Tutoring

- Best for longer-form help (> 15 mins) and conceptual questions
- Hours:
  - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 5-7pm (room TBA)

# Feedback + Help

Feedback is always welcome!

- From “your mic was too quiet” to suggestions on how to improve the course

For questions + help, you can email [comp110help@gmail.com](mailto:comp110help@gmail.com) or your two assigned UTAs

Looking forward to the semester!