Intro to APIs: Syllabus

January 12, 2020 / 7:30 PM - 8:30PM EST

Important Links

Workshop Hackpack

Pre-workshop checklist, and resources to explore during and after the workshop.

The official #HackTheNorth 2020++ event schedule

Check this out to stay up-to-date on activities, workshops, and other key happenings this weekend.

Motivator

APIs are what makes information accessible over the Internet and within your app. It allows you to interact with a database and retrieve, modify, add or delete data. Understanding how APIs work and how to implement one will help you develop a web-based prototype and integrate third-party services like Spotify and Google Maps into your solution. If you're new to coding and are looking to create an app that uses data, this workshop is a must for you!

Prerequisite Knowledge

In order to get the most out of this workshop you should be comfortable with the following concepts:

- A basic understanding of programming. This workshop is designed to be suitable for anyone with an interest to learn how to code!

Learning Outcomes

This is what you will walk away from the workshop able to do:

1. Make calls to an external API in Python
2. Process data retrieved from an API
3. Build your own API for a web app using Flask

Timeline (1 hour)

Time	Module	Description
10 min.	What is an API	What value do APIs add to software applications
5 min.	How web apps interface with an API	Where would you be using an API in your hackathon project
20 min.	Interacting with an online API	Using Python scripting to directly interact with a no-authentication-needed, open-source API
5 min.	Break	Hydrate yourself please
10 min.	Adding into our own Flask web app API	Adding the above logic into the backend of a very basic web app
5 min.	Q&A	Any questions?
5 min.	Closing Remarks	Good luck on your project!