Comp 322/422 - Software Development for Wireless and Mobile Devices

Fall Semester 2018 - Week 10

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React Native - Lifecycle methods

mounting

- create stateful components in React and React Native
  - *monitor and use various lifecycle hooks*
  - *in addition to the* `setState()` *method...*

- start by considering component rendering
  - *better known as* **mounting**
  - *various methods to cover each stage of component lifecycle*

- `componentDidMount`
  - *called after component mounting*
  - *use this method to initialise timers, any event listeners, fetch data, &c.*
  - *calls to* `setState` *will trigger re-render*

- `componentWillUnmount`
  - *called just before the component is unmounted and destriyed*
  - *normally use this method for component cleanup &c.*
  - *e.g. removing timers, stopping data requests, API calls &c.*

React Native - Lifecycle methods

updating

- components in React will be updated as and when their state is changed
  - *or if the parent component passes different props*

- we can take advantage of this data flow and pattern
  - *executing any required logic before a component gets updated...*

- React provides methods for such points in a components lifecycle
  - *thereby allowing us to handle updates*

- `componentDidUpdate`
  - *invoked following update*
  - *React Docs*

```
componentDidUpdate(prevProps, prevState, snapshot)
```

- `shouldComponentUpdate`
  - *React will usually re-render a component for each change in state*
  - *this method allows us to specify whether a component should update, how, &c.*
  - *e.g. re-render a component only for a specific update*
  - *return `false` from this method - a component will not be re-rendered*
  - *React Docs*

References

- React JS - Component Lifecycle
- React JS - `componentDidUpdate`
- React JS - `shouldComponentUpdate`