CS 373 Spring 2024: Neha Desaraju

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What did you do this past week?

Resubmitted our old IDB, as well as got started with my group on the new one. I was able to start on the visualizations portion of the next phase and got all our questions answered!

What's in your way?

I need to figure out a good way to implement all the visualizations backend-wise, and I've been procrastinating quite a bit so I need to really get to work before this Wednesday.

What will you do next week?

Finishing up the visualizations portion of the next IDB, and wrapping up this project!! Also, I have some end-of-year projects for my other classes I need to get to work on. I'm super excited to plan for graduation and summer plans :)

What did you think of Paper #13. What Happens to Us Does Not Happen to Most of You.

I loved reading this paper! I felt so seen as a woman in CS who has already experienced some of the aggressions and comments that were described in the paper. I really hope that many of my peers acknowledge how they themselves have already been affected by this normalized culture of treating women — many times in their own classes — as inhuman or less intelligent.

What did you think of of refactoring and the ethics lectures?

I didn't realize there was such a step-by-step process to refactoring. I also really enjoyed the ethics lectures, they are such a great team in teaching and many of the things they mentioned I had never even thought of.

What made you happy this week?

This week was honestly an overall bad week (maybe the worst this semester) due to a lot of life things. However, something that made me happy was that I got to spend a lot more time with my friends and got some great news from some family!

What's your pick-of-the-week or tip-of-the-week?

Anytime you need help with something, I'd really recommend reaching out to someone who is just a little bit better than you at it, especially if you only know them from online communities. Somehow this is really helpful even for tech stuff, when you feel like you don't know something, don't be afraid to ask! Someone taught me this because oftentimes when it can feel more daunting to reach out to an expert (and they may not want to talk to you about it, because they are much better than you) someone who is slightly better than you may be very inclined to help you because they were not long ago in your position.