Final Interview Questions
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1. I had always wanted to participate in a hackathon, so to be able to do so in an environment that would also earn me credit towards my honors diploma was an easy decision.

2. I was already very familiar with HTML and CSS, so I focused on learning Javascript interactions with APIs and data. I used the Ironhacks materials while in the physical classroom setting, but not so much while at home working on my project. I mostly watched and followed along during the classroom settings, but I was already familiar with most of the material (which I think was important for beginning programmers).

3. I mostly worked at home, I drew out some broad feature lists of ideas I wanted to include, then I started building the fundamental features with Google Maps. I already had a pretty strong idea for the UI I wanted to implement, so I started building that at the same time as the back end functionality. I worked locally using a repo on my personal GitHub account, then only copied and pasted my final code to the social coding platform before submitting (it took too much time to add all the files and I was used to my own text editor). I mostly worked in my dorm room!

    a. The biggest restraint was definitely time, and I was not entirely sure how to interpret the broad prompt at first. I talked a lot with Justin about how we interpreted the final needs, and how to incorporate the limited data we had available.

    b. I engaged in online discussion when I had prompt-related questions (more so than technical questions), and I looked at every other submission when scores were returned as a comparison.

4. Each subsequent submission focused more on a specific data layer, and included smaller tweaks to present the data in the best way. My middle submissions were slower progress because I spent a lot of time trying to use the Zillow data. I think my final phase was when my vision really came to fruition.

5. I would probably try to have a more unique feature, which I had listed on my brainstorming, but did not have time to actually build. I haven't participated in other hacks on campus.

6. I would work to enhance the scoring systems and incorporate more cultural resources into the neighborhood search results. I also wanted to include a "moving prep" page that would compare local weather to NYC weather.

7. I would encourage future hack guidelines to include more clarity regarding the timelines and the prompt. I would explicitly state that the prompt and data have some ambiguity, because I think a lot of students did not realize that this ambiguity was meant to spur creativity rather than hinder it. I also would include references to support native Git and other native development resources, such as StackOverflow. Maybe there is a way to create a forum for IronHacks within stack overflow to introduce new programmers to the valuable resource?