

CS 211 : Tues 01/23 (lecture 06)



Prof. Hummel
(he/him)

- **Topics:** pointers, strings, memory management, stack vs. heap

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

www.a-printable-calendar.com

Notes:

- *Lecture slides available on Canvas*
- *HW 03 due tonight @ 11:59pm*
- *Project 03 due Friday @ 11:59pm, may be submitted up to 48 hours late. Gradescope will open soon (tonight?) for submissions*
- *Attendance, HW and Project scores posted to Canvas – please check for accuracy*



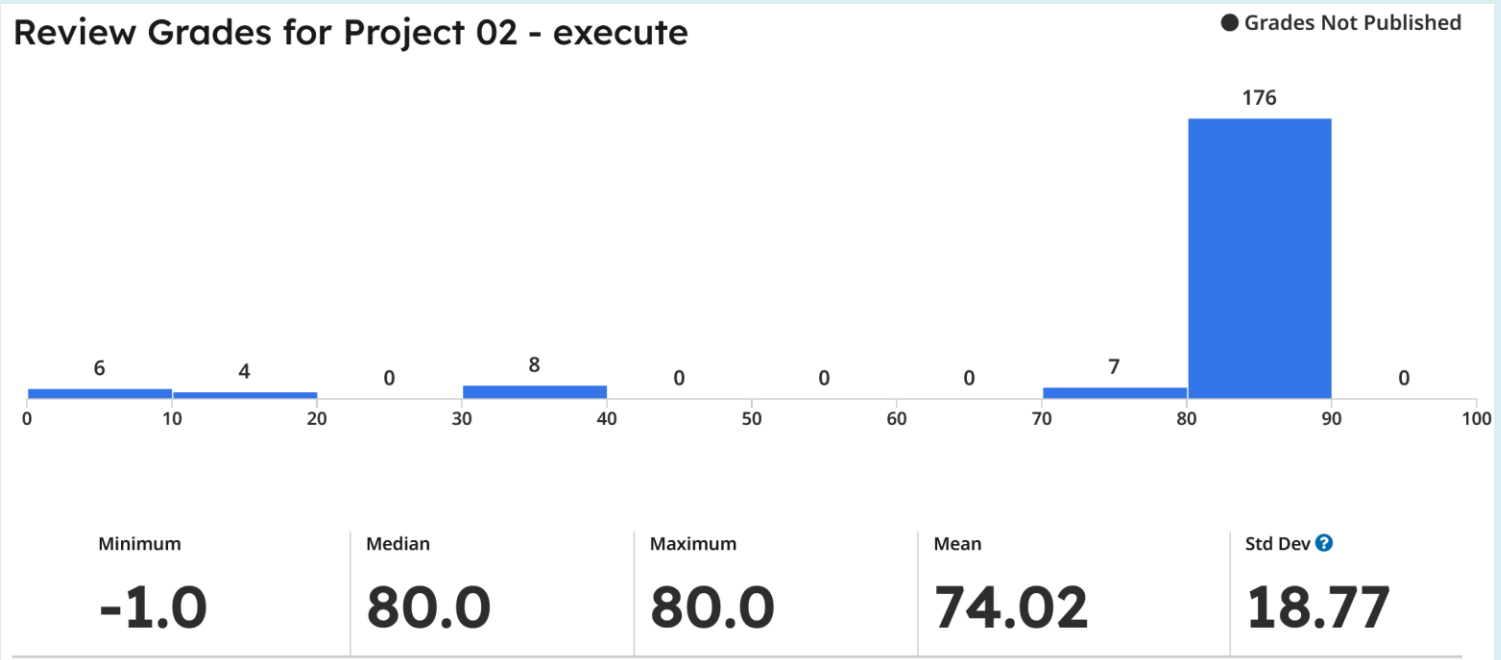
Northwestern
University

Project 02

Its supposed to
be HARD
If it wasn't
EVERYONE
would do it
The HARD
is what
makes it
GREAT.

- **Statistics:**

- *205 students*
- *201 submissions (98%)*
- *176 finished with autograder score of 80/80 (86%)*



Don't do this...

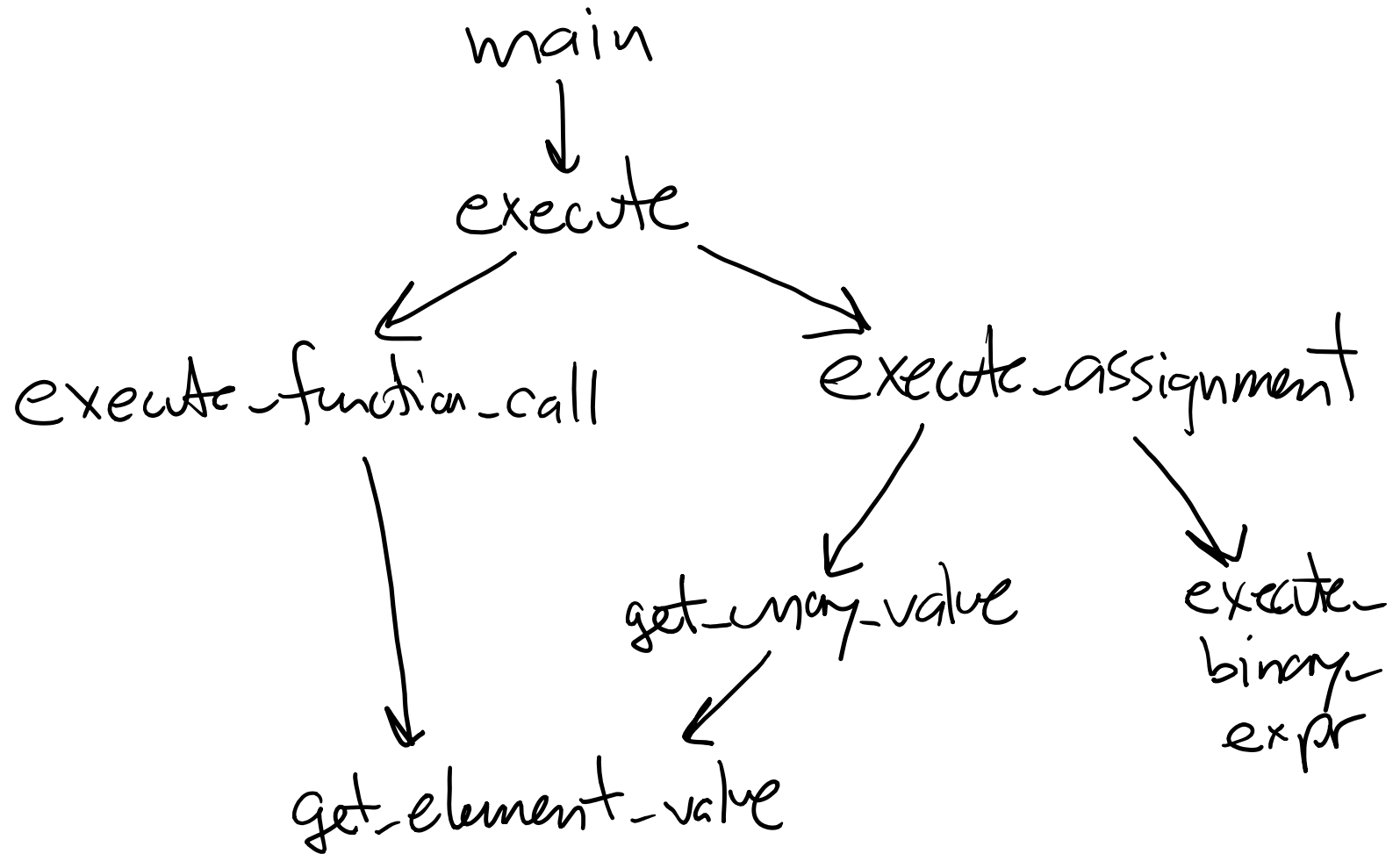
```
void perform_int_binary_operation(int operator, ...)  
{  
    if (operator == 0)  
    {  
        ...  
    }  
    else if (operator == 1)  
    {  
        ...  
    }  
    else if (operator == 2)  
    {  
        ...  
    }  
    else if (operator == 3)  
    {  
        |  
    }  
}
```



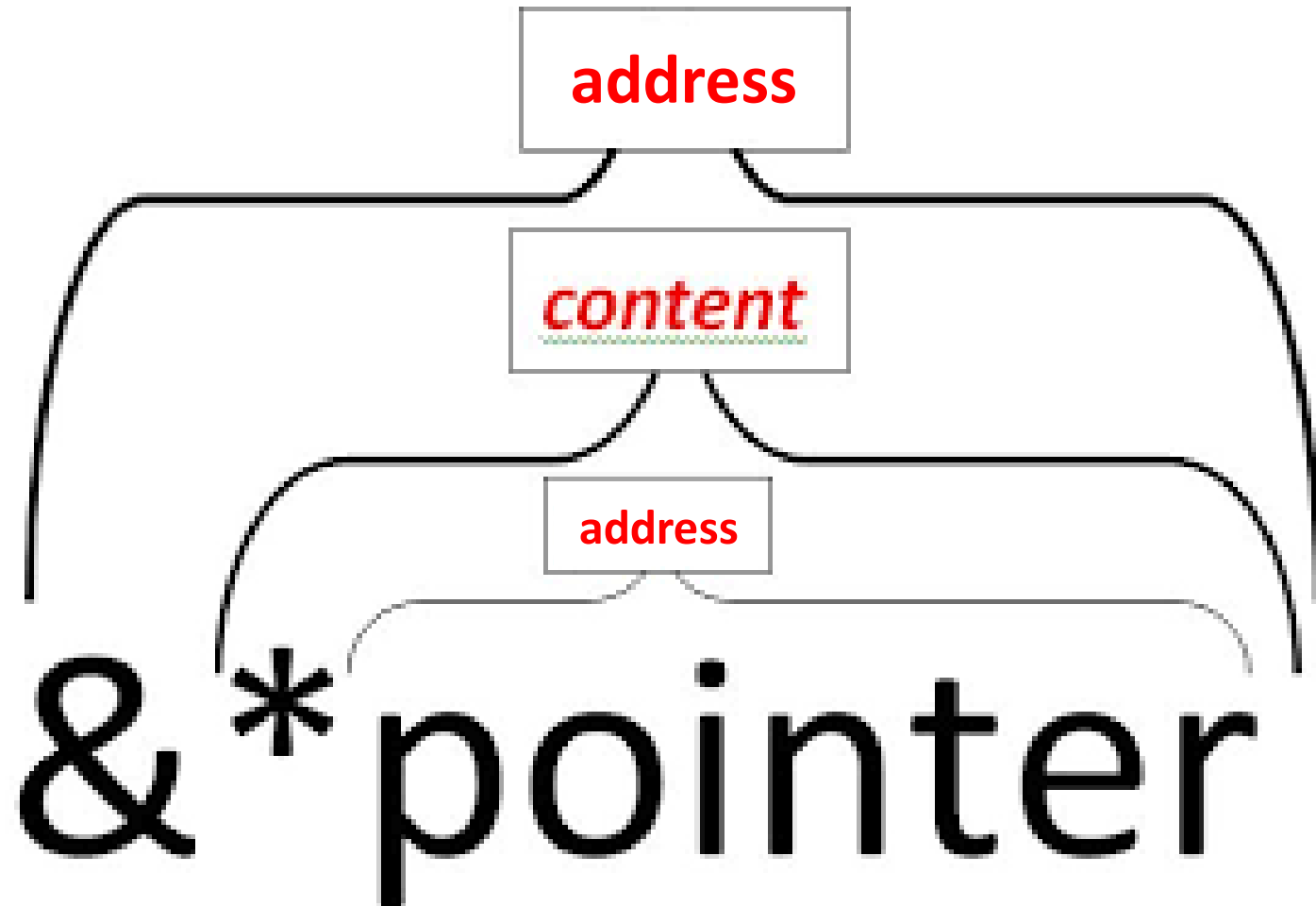
Call Graph

- **Call graph** depicts how functions call each other... Good function design is critical to successful Software Engineering. Here's the call graph of our solution:

Our project 02 solution



Project 03?



(1) What does this program output?

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char buffer[10];
    char* cp;

    strcpy(buffer, "Project");

    cp = &buffer[4];

    *cp += 1;

    printf("%c\n", buffer[4]);
}
```

A) *j*

B) *k*

C) *e*

D) *f*

**E) *None of
the above***

(2) And what does this output?

- Assume the user enters "northwestern" without the quotes...

```
char* helper_function()
{
    char buffer[32];

    printf("enter a word> ");
    scanf("%s", buffer);

    return &buffer[4];
}
```

```
int main()
{
    char* cp;

    cp = helper_function();

    printf("%c\n", *cp);
}
```

A) *h*

B) *i*

C) *A memory address*

D) *Crashes*

E) *None of the above*

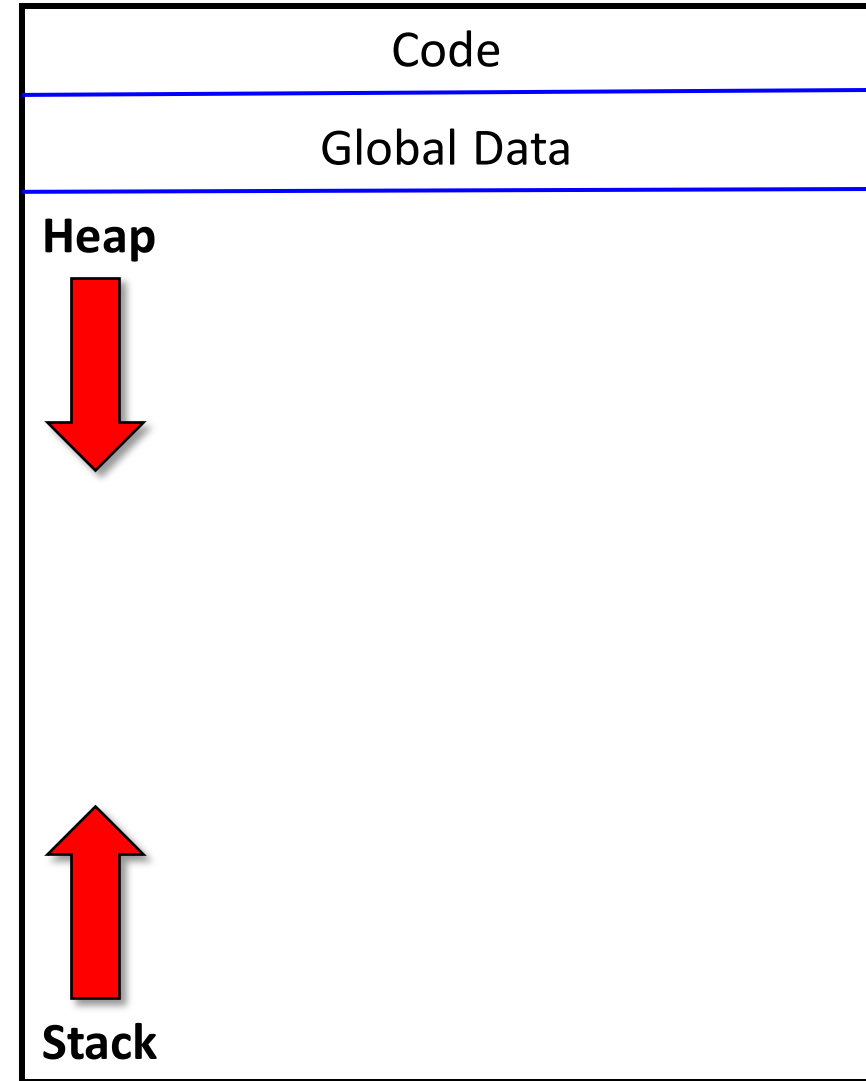
RAM

- Memory is divided into 4 sections...

```
char* helper_function(int i)
{
    char buffer[32]
    .
    .
    printf("enter a word> ");
    .
    .
}
```

```
int main()
{
    int    x = 2
    char*  cp;

    cp = helper_function(x);
}
```



Program execution: stack and heap

```
char* helper_function(int i)
{
    char buffer[32];

    printf("enter a word> ");
    scanf("%s", buffer);

    return &buffer[i];
}
```

```
int main()
{
    int    x = 2;
    char*  cp;

    cp = helper_function(i);

    printf("%c\n", *cp);
}
```

Heap



Stack



Dynamic memory allocation

- Let's rewrite helper function using malloc()...

```
char* helper_function()
{
    char buffer[32];

    printf("enter a word> ");
    scanf("%s", buffer);

    size_t bytes = sizeof(char) *
                    (strlen(buffer) + 1);
    char* s = (char*) malloc(bytes);
    strcpy(s, buffer);
    return s;
}
```

```
int main()
{
    char* cp;

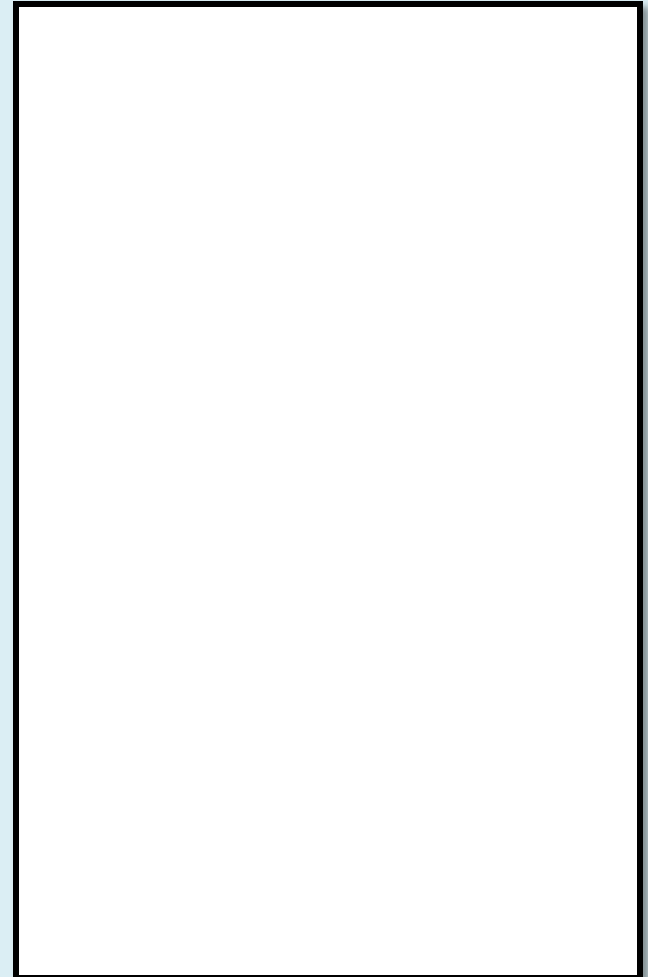
    cp = helper_function();

    printf("%c\n", *cp);
}
```

Heap



Stack



This code crashes... Where?

```
1  struct Student* create(char* name) {
2      struct Student* s;
3
4      size_t bytes = sizeof(struct Student);
5      s = (struct Student*) malloc(bytes);
6
7      strcpy(s->name, name);
8      s->year = 1;
9      s->gpa = 0.0;
10
11     return s;
12 }
```

```
struct Student {
    char*   name;
    int     year;
    double  gpa;
};
```

```
14 int main()
15 {
16     struct Student* s;
17     char name[32];
18
19     printf("Enter student's name> ");
20     scanf("%s", name);
21
22     s = create(name);
23
24     printf("%s: %lf\n", s->name, s->gpa);
```

A) Line 7

B) Line 8

C) Line 9

D) Line 20

E) Line 24

Solution?

```
1 struct Student* create(char* name) {
2     struct Student* s;
3
4     size_t bytes = sizeof(struct Student);
5     s = (struct Student*) malloc(bytes);
6
7     strcpy(s->name, name);
8     s->year = 1;
9     s->gpa = 0.0;
10
11     return s;
12 }
```

```
14 int main()
15 {
16     struct Student* s;
17     char name[32];
18
19     printf("Enter student's name> ");
20     scanf("%s", name);
21
22     s = create(name);
23
24     printf("%s: %lf\n", s->name, s->gpa);
```

```
struct Student {
    char*   name;
    int     year;
    double  gpa;
};
```

Memory management

- If you `malloc()` memory...
- You are supposed to `free()` that memory when you're done using it...
- Failure to do so is called a **memory leak**

Example

```
struct Student* create(char* name)
{
    struct Student* s;
    size_t bytes = sizeof(struct Student);
    s = (struct Student*) malloc(bytes);

    bytes = sizeof(char) * (strlen(name)+1);
    s->name = (char*) malloc(bytes);
    strcpy(s->name, name);
    s->year = 1;
    s->gpa = 0.0;

    return s;
}
```

```
struct Student {
    char* name;
    int year;
    double gpa;
};
```

Heap



```
int main()
{
    struct Student* s;
    char name[32];

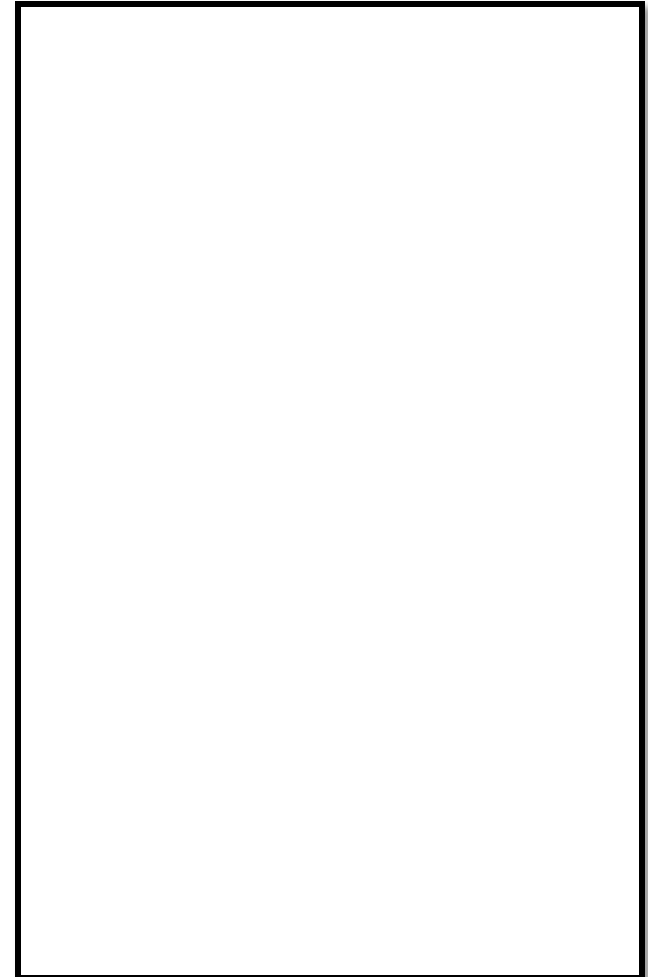
    printf("Enter student's name> ");
    scanf("%s", name);

    s = create(name);

    printf("%s: %lf\n", s->name, s->gpa);

    free(s->name);
    free(s);
}
```

Stack



What should I be working on?

HW 03 is due tonight...

Project 03 is due Friday night...

