



CS196

#11

# Announcements

No Homework!!

Midterm

Project Midterm  
Presentation

Hackathon

# Midterm

The midterm will be a take-home exam and will take the place of HW7. You will get one week to work on the midterm, and will be able to work with your peers.

# Project Midterm Presentation

The project midterm presentation will take place on November 14th, during lecture.



Each group will have 5 minutes to present their project progress. Groups will be allowed to have up to 3 Powerpoint slides.

# Hackathon

There will be a hackathon  
this Saturday, November  
11th, from 12-4pm in 0216.



Teams should plan to attend  
the hackathon at the same  
time so they can prepare for  
midterm presentations.

Food will be provided.

# Today

Algorithms + Recursion

Debugging

# Hackerspaces

Mobile Dev: Siebel 1105

Data Science: Siebel 0216

Web Dev: Siebel 1304

# Office Hours

No office hours this week  
due to no homework :)



# Attendance

<https://goo.gl/iYigpc>

Keyword given at end of lecture



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# Algorithms + Recursion

# Questions?



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# Debugging 101

## The Typical Approach...?

How long do you usually spend writing code vs debugging it?

When does your code have more bugs? less?

What do you do when confronted with an error?

Start with better code

Develop an algorithm

Write it down in English

Write psuedocode

Write actual code on paper

Now code (and comment!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)

## Clarity, Modularization

Break smaller tasks off into their own functions

Easier to narrow down which is producing the bug

Name variables with meaning so it's clear what each should be representing

Now that you've  
written  
amazing code...

Use print statements to trace variables

Place at strategic points in the code

Is a certain variable okay before a  
segment of code? What about after?

You might think you know exactly what  
your code is doing...



Use drawings and diagrams to visualize what's going on

Follow what you actually wrote, not what you *think* you wrote

Test edge cases and gray areas in your code

Become an artist

The Debugger is  
Your Friend :)

Don't be intimidated by all the  
options and tools

Learning to use it efficiently can  
save time and effort

Easier to trace multiple  
variables and keep tabs on  
everything at once

Explain what each line of your code does

Pay extra attention to details like  
conditions, initialization, flow of control  
structures

Use moderation when actually asking for  
help



Talk about it



# Keyword

# Chapman

<https://goo.gl/iYigpc>