# Jamie's Tips for Success

Full-Stack Flex Bootcamp

## High School/College Class Mentality

This is not your typical class that you've elected to take for credit toward earning a degree. The majority of you are here because you want a new career in web development. You should strive for more than a passing grade/fulfilling the requirements. You really need to put in a significant amount of time and effort into learning so you can be successful.

It will take more than just a certificate of completion to prove to an employer that you know what you're doing. Most, if not all, tech interviews will require you to answer coding questions. So make the conscious decision now to dedicate yourself to your learning so that you can finish confident in your skills.

We're here to help you succeed!

## Use Every Resource

- Office hours are 45 minutes prior and 30 minutes after every class
- Tutors are available for one 50-minute session every week
- AskBCS in Slack is available 24-hours a day
- Google is a Developer's best friend! The more you use it, the better you get at answering any coding questions you have.
- Your peers help each other! Use the study-groups and ask-the-class channels in Slack.
- The modules in BCS have resource links to what you'll learn that week. Read them before class to prepare yourself.
- Supplement your learning with books and online resources.

### Manage Your Time

- 6 months seems long, but it flies by!
- The urge to do anything other than coding will at times be your most difficult struggle. Don't give in! The movies, tv shows, games, outings with friends, etc, will all be there after 6 months. Trust me. (This doesn't mean don't take mental breaks. Sometimes you just need a day off.)
- Time-travel is real when you're coding! Hours will pass by without your notice. This is why we ask that you dedicate a minimum of 20+ hours outside of class time to dedicate to practice, homework and preparing for the next week.

#### Homework

- Start your homework after the first day of the week you won't have all the skills you need to finish until after day 3 - but doing what you can from day one will help to practice skills while they are fresh in your mind, and save you from having to dedicate large amounts of time in one sitting.
- It's tempting to utilize tutors and office hours to ask for help on homework, but I urge you to focus on getting help understanding the concepts you're struggling with rather than specifically needing help with the homework. If you understand the skills taught, the homework will be easier.
- Do not copy other people's homework assignments!

#### Have Fun and Be Excited!

Web development, software engineering, coding - no matter what you call it, it's fun!

I truly believe that creating applications is an art. Developing user interfaces and writing code that will determine the look and functionality of an application is very rewarding.

Whatever you want your code to do (within the realm of reality - lol) you can make happen.

As a long-time Disney employee, I believe in the words of Walt Disney:

"If you can Dream It, you can Do It"