

Team Name and Naming Rationale

Team Name: The Software Pioneers

Rationale:

We chose “**The Software Pioneers**” as our team name because we are eager to explore new frontiers in Software Engineering, machine learning, and technology as a whole. Like pioneers venturing into uncharted territory, we embrace the excitement of discovery and the challenges that come with learning in a rapidly evolving field.

Team Members

1.



Biography: Stanley Navarrete

Hello! My name is Stanley Navarrete. I bring a blend of academic and professional experiences that I believe will benefit our group in several ways. My background includes a bachelor's degree in Computer Science during which I developed a solid foundation in both theoretical concepts and practical applications. I have also worked on numerous small projects that allowed me to explore programming, data analysis, and problem solving within real world contexts.

Beyond my academic pursuits, I have gained valuable experience through internships and volunteer opportunities, where I sharpened my communication, collaboration, and leadership skills. I enjoy learning about emerging technologies and have a particular passion for Machine Learning, Web Development, and Cloud Computing. I believe I hold enormous potential for

innovation. I consider myself an adaptive learner who welcomes feedback and actively seeks out resources to help refine my skills.

I am excited to contribute my unique perspective, attention to detail, and dedication to quality work. Whether it is organizing task assignments, conducting research, or analyzing data, I aim to support our team's success at every step. Above all, I value open communication and mutual respect, and I look forward to growing and learning together as we tackle each challenge that comes our way.



2.

Biography: Alexis Evans

Hi! My name is Alexis Evans, and I am a sophomore Computer Science major, Mathematics minor at Howard University. My academic journey is driven by a passion for problem-solving, algorithmic development, and innovation in technology. I have experience working with servers, graphs, and algorithm design, gaining hands-on expertise through my STEP internship at Google last summer. I will be returning to Google this summer as a SWE intern in Sunnyvale, CA.

In addition to my coursework, I hold a Machine Learning Fundamentals certificate from Cornell University and the Break Through Tech program, further strengthening my foundation in artificial intelligence and data-driven problem-solving. I'm involved on campus in organizations

such as Engineers Without Borders, the Howard Players, the National Society of Black Engineers, and the Society of Women Engineers, where I collaborate with peers on technical projects and professional development initiatives.

I am committed to continuous learning and growth, both in software engineering and beyond. I hope to assist in increasing Black representation in tech, expanding access to tech education for Black and Brown students, and building technologies that are inclusive for all users. My experience balancing technical challenges with leadership and collaboration has equipped me with strong analytical skills, adaptability, and a drive to contribute meaningfully to the tech industry. As I continue developing my expertise, I seek opportunities to apply my knowledge in real-world applications and further my impact in the field.



3.

Biography: Neayla Simone

Hello, my name is Neayla :) I'm a sophomore computer science major attending Howard University. I have a strong passion for learning about new technologies and finding innovative ways to apply my knowledge. Whether it's through programming, problem-solving, or exploring emerging trends, I enjoy discovering how technology can be used to create meaningful solutions. Additionally, I have a deep appreciation for exploring new places and cultures, as I believe that diverse perspectives enhance both personal and professional growth.

Throughout my academic journey, I have primarily focused on Python, gaining a solid foundation in its applications for software development, data analysis, and automation. Alongside Python, I have also learned C++ and Java, which have provided me with a broader understanding of programming principles, object-oriented design, and performance optimization. My experience with multiple programming languages allows me to adapt to different technical challenges and think critically about solving complex problems.

As I continue to grow in the field of technology, I am eager to expand my knowledge, collaborate with others, and explore new opportunities where I can apply my skills in innovative and impactful ways.



2.

Biography: Diego Pérez Rivera

Hi! My name is Diego Perez Rivera. I am a junior Computer Science student at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. My passion for mathematics and my drive to solve complex problems with efficient solutions through programming is what gives me the motivation to continue exploring this field. I have experience in game development research, which has helped me build essential research skills like data analysis, systematic experimentation, and documentation. Also, I have developed strong problem-solving abilities, leadership skills, and the ability to work in teams through multiple projects that I have been involved in.

Beyond academics, I have been a member of college community organizations of individuals with the same passion and aspirations as me. Being involved on campus inside communities like the Computing Alliance of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (CAHSI) and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), I have gained access to mentorship, professional development opportunities, and collaborative work that have helped me grow technically and professionally.

I'm beyond excited to contribute to the team with the technical, teamwork, and analytical skill set I have previously developed. I'm committed to continuing to learn and grow individually but also alongside my teammates, fostering a collaborative and communicative environment. I look forward to making a tangible impact in our project.

Team Expectations and Agreements

Below is our collaboratively created table addressing each of the 13 questions. We have discussed these items as a team and agreed upon the terms outlined.

#	Question	Team Agreement
1	What are our team goals for this project and the class?	1. Develop a deep understanding of course concepts. 2. Submit high-quality, on time assignments. 3. Improve collaboration and communication skills. 4. Support each other's learning journeys.
2	What are each of our strengths? (Include any strengths, not just technical CS knowledge)	- Stanley: Communication, and organizational skills. Alexis: Problem solving, leadership, collaboration Neayla: Problem-solving skills, and collaboration skills Diego: Critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration
3	How will we communicate with each other?	We will use a combination of Discord and email. Discord for real-time/quick discussions and email for formal updates and document sharing.

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| 4 | How quickly should we expect to hear back from each other? | We aim to respond to Discord messages within 24 hours on weekdays. Emails requiring detailed responses should be addressed within 48 hours. If there is an urgent matter, we will tag the member with "URGENT" to speed up the response. |
| 5 | What day/time in the week will we meet every week? | We will hold a 1-hour virtual meeting every Monday at 2:00 PM (PST). The time may be adjusted if scheduling conflicts arise, but Monday are our default. |
| 6 | What are our rules for our weekly meetings? | 1. Arrive on time. 2. Come prepared with any assigned tasks or updates. 3. Keep an agenda to stay focused. 4. Give everyone the opportunity to speak. 5. End with clear action items and deadlines. |
| 7 | How will we run the meetings? | We will use a shared agenda document for each meeting and note decisions/action items. Each meeting begins with a quick status update, then dives into agenda items. We conclude with next steps and responsibilities. |
| 8 | What should we each prepare before each weekly meeting? | - Review tasks from the previous week and update progress.
 - Compile questions or blockers to discuss.
 - Read any project related documents or research needed for the upcoming discussion.
 - Share relevant updates on Discord prior to the meeting so everyone has context. |
| 9 | When we get a group assignment, how will we divide the work? What if there is an unequal load of work in an assignment? How will we rotate roles (e.g., team leader, notetaker, who submits)? | Work will be divided based on each person's strengths and interests. If an assignment has an unequal load, we will redistribute tasks so no one is overwhelmed. We will rotate key roles (team leader, notetaker, assignment submitter) on a weekly or per task basis, ensuring everyone gets exposure to different responsibilities. |
| 10 | What will we do if a member cannot work for a specified period of time due to unforeseen circumstances? How will the team react and get the work done? | We will maintain transparency. If a member foresees they will be out of commission, they should inform the team ASAP. Other team members will cover the tasks. Once the unavailable member returns, we will redistribute work accordingly. Compassion and adaptability are key. We will also keep our project coach informed if it affects deadlines. |

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| 11 How do we collectively decide when to submit group assignments? | We aim to finish drafts at least 24 hours before the official deadline. This buffer allows for final reviews. The designated “submitter” will confirm all team members approve the final version before submission. |
| 12 What are our group’s rules about using genAI? (Remember that each teammate is responsible for their own work, whether genAI is used or not.) | We may use generative AI tools like ChatGPT for brainstorming, research summaries, or suggestions, but each member must double-check factual accuracy and originality. We commit to citing AI usage whenever necessary and ensuring our final submissions reflect our own understanding and insights. |
| 13 What happens if one of us breaks the rules in this agreement? | If there is a minor infraction, the team will discuss it privately and develop a plan for improvement. Repeated or serious breaches will result in a team meeting with the project coach if necessary. Our aim is to handle conflicts respectfully and find constructive solutions. |
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Team Signatures

By “signing” our names below (typed name and initials), we attest that we have read, understood, and agreed to abide by the terms in this document.

1. **Stanley Navarrete (S.N.)**
2. **Neayla Jones (NSJ)**
3. **Alexis Evans (ASE)**
4. **Diego Perez (D.P.)**