



galvanize

First Day  
Culture Talk



# Instruction

Instructors are not necessarily available to you nights, lunches, or weekends- respect our time.

The current instructors are not necessarily "your" instructors.

Galvanize is not a recruiting agency, you are not assured graduation, and you are not guaranteed a job. Our job is to make sure you get out what you put in.

This is a culture of outcomes- "graduation" doesn't actually matter, only getting and keeping a job does.

Don't be a "bomb thrower" during lectures.



# Housekeeping

Galvanize membership benefits- do's and don'ts

Be visible and network

Beware the free beer- don't be a drunk asshole

Be a good neighbor

Clean the classroom

Do dishes

Work the steam cleaner

# Personal Growth



This is really hard.

Don't quit easily

This will open more doors than just being a programmer

Don't say "I can't do this"

Don't say "I already know this"

Don't be terrified of error messages

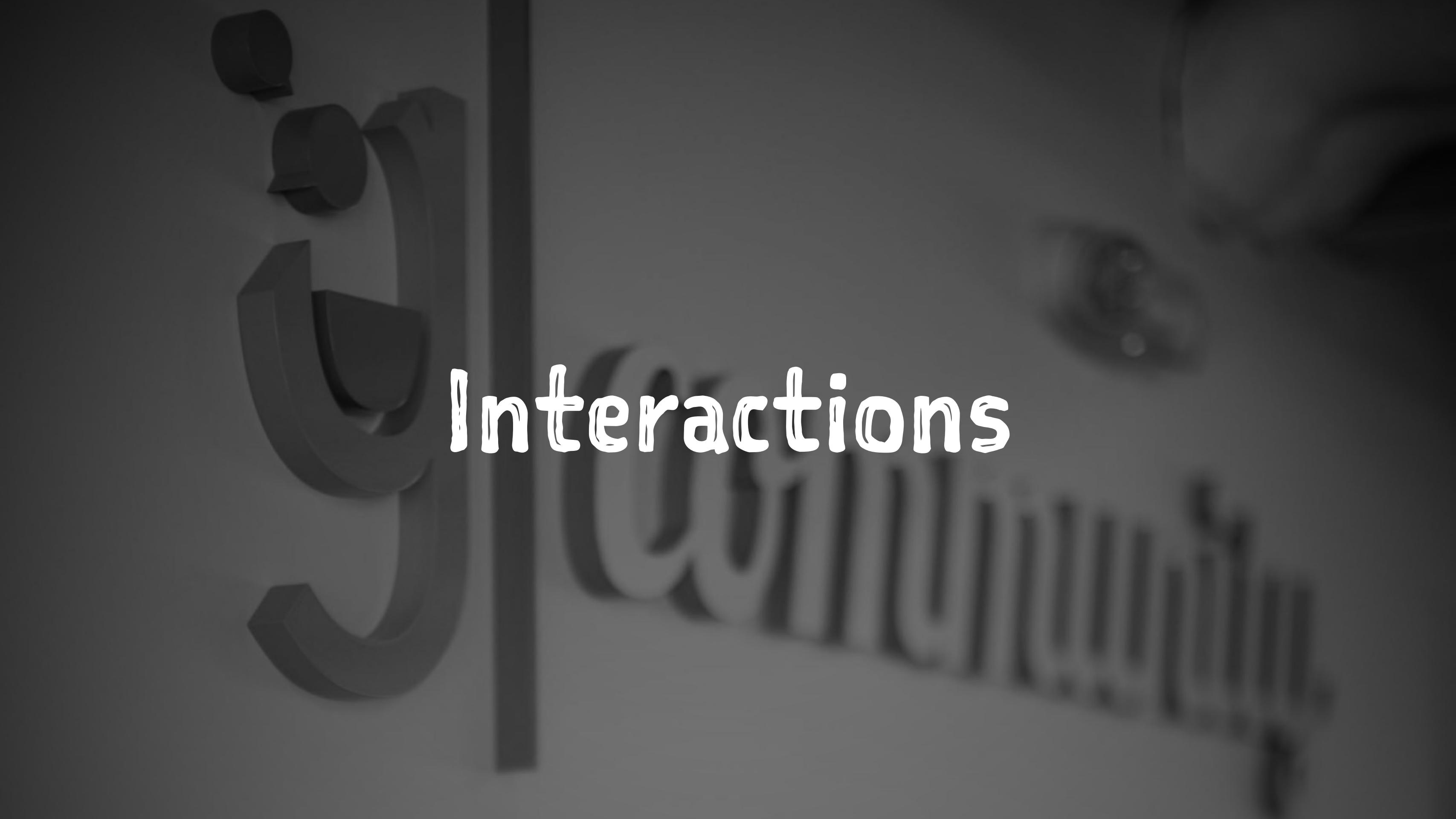
Don't be afraid to search for answers for a longer than expected time

Keep your objective in mind. Begin with the end in mind.

Some things have extremely high leverage- learning your text editor, environment, and dev tools, and increasing your typing speed are principle among them.

Learn time management- chunking, pomodoros, walking away from problems and coming back

Use the mastery tracker as a checklist to guide efforts



# Interactions

Culture of collaboration

You are here together

You are sources of info for each other

The best way to learn is to teach

Collaboration is a skill

If you want to go fast, go alone- if you want to go far, go together

Be mature and inclusive

Go to meetups, and do them together!

Respect each other's boundaries- there's a difference between asking for help, and giving unasked help

Cohort events aren't self-organizing. Someone will have to step up if you want a class blog, study group, etc. They are easy to do and have a high return of interest.

# Intention Setting



Note: This is an interactive exercise, after the students have had some expectations set, have them write a letter to their friends and family, along with a letter to themselves. It takes about 30 minutes to run.



## Narrative

This course will be really hard. There will be lots of struggle. Cherish the times when stuff seems easy, because you're going to feel overwhelmed a lot of the time. When stuff is too easy for you, talk to us about it. You can always make your code better, so we'll push you as far as we think you can go. That's what this is for- be prepared to be outside your comfort zone. That's where growth happens.

A black and white photograph of two women. One woman with long dark hair is on the left, looking towards the right. The other woman with blonde hair is on the right, looking towards the left and smiling. They appear to be laughing together.

# Friends and Family

If you're really ready to do this, you need to tell your friends and family that you're starting this very intense immersive program. Setting their expectations of you at this time will be really crucial, so that your support network is equipped to actually support you. To do this, we're going to write two letters.



Youself