My long journey with CS162.

As soon as I fiished my CS161, I felt so confident with myself.

I already knew C language before taking CS161 so that class was not that hard for me. I was just little bit concenred on getting used to new style of learning.I had been attending school physically and had never taken a class online so that was my most concern. Taking CS161, I got to know I can learn alot and sometimes even more than physically attending a class.

The situation has changed as soon as I started to take CS162

I should admit I had grinded out code until I make my code works for few weeks when I first started CS162. I always had to go to bed late to do modules and assignments. I felt so depressed and I was like swimming deep in the ocean without any light or help to catch some tiny fish called pointer. To catch pointer fish, I had to swim a lot being bothered by big OOP shark. I felt so hopeless but I really wanted to do good. So I started to ask everybody who is attending the class. I asked on discussion board and I asked people taking CS162 I got to know from google plus, and also TA. Everybody was really helpful and I could find more and more clues as time goes by. I think people’s help was really helpful but I could not attend the help session because I live South Korea so I had work while most of help session was going on but I could get enormous help from my TA(Alex Marsh) so I feel so grateful for her. So now I am quite comfortable with using pointer variables. And I got used to using OOP also. I got really amazed with the concept of polymorphism. And as I honed my skill using pointer variables, I could feel comfortable with data structures more. I had studied data structure by myself but I always had some difficulties before.

Talking about my process with my modules and assignments, I always read the description a lot at first. I download the pdf file. And when I study on concept for the week and read some chapters for the week, I read that description along, so I can find some important concept I can apply to that very best module or assignment. While I keep doing that for 2 or 3 days, all of sudden, when I attend the meeting at my work, which is really irrelevant with the assignment, some idea comes up and I feel like I can draw some structure I should code in my mind. I think that moment was the very best moment I always felt amazed. Then as I jump in coding, I confront lots of errors but at least I feel my structure or design is right. And I modifies minor mistakes.

What I wanted more from the class was I wanted more example codes. Of course, I could find lots of example codes from the internet but I wanted “endorsed” code. And at first when I was writing a code for module1 I could see how the desired program works and that execution file helped me a lot. I think releasing that kinds of execution file after few days of release of assignment or module will not hurt students contemplating the structure of the program.

I think one of the most important thing is reviewing. I spent my spring break doing nothing. It was only two weeks but I can tell I forgot lots of concepts I learnt from CS161. I think I need to review more on what I had learnt for summer and I keep this pleasant feeling with other following classes. Thanks.