COVID-19, Online Instruction, and You

15-213/18-213/15-513/18-613:
Introduction to Computer Systems
16.5th Lecture, March 17, 2020
Today’s Agenda

- Zoom Tips
- COVID-19/Coronavirus Context
- How 213/613 Will Handle Online Instruction
Zoom Interface
General Zoom Interactions

- **While you are listening**
  - Keep your video off (Zoom doesn’t handle all that bandwidth well)
  - Keep your mic muted
  - **Please ask questions and interact!**
    - Use the **Chat** feature – we will look for questions there
    - Under the Participants tab, **raise your hand**
    - Click Yes/No when prompted, and then click again to clear your response

- **When asking questions**
  - Unmute your mic
  - If you can, show your video – we miss seeing you!
  - Mute your mic and turn off your video after your question has been answered
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Why All This? To Flatten the Curve!

Why it is so important to **act early** on COVID-19

- Purple: Badly treated patients (high mortality)
- Green: Well treated patients (low mortality)
- Dashed line: Cases without action
- Solid line: Cases with delay
- Dotted line: Treatment capacity without action
- Orange: Treatment capacity with delay

- Early containment measures
- Time
- Medical staff gets ill in large numbers
- Medical research (and organizational learning) expands treatment capacity

by Alexander Radke (@aixndk)
Infection Spread Increases Exponentially (at least initially)

- Our healthcare system can’t easily absorb a new large-scale disease
- With uncontrolled transmission, more people will die
- Lowering the exponent is our best hope to not overwhelm the system
- Hence social distancing: these measures seem radical, but are necessary
- Early interventions are key
  - This requires a change in behavior from all of us
  - See for yourself:
    https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/corona-simulator/
I Am Young, Should I Still Worry?

- People of all ages can be infected by the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Older people, and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease) appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus. [WHO]

- But it is easy, even for asymptomatic people with COVID-19, to spread the illness.

- So, if you get sick, you increase the exponent. Especially if you get sick early.

- So, stay safe, hang out in small sets of people, and, despite everything, try to not worry too much.
Things to Remember During Distancing

■ Take care of yourself and others around you
  ▪ Single most important thing you can do now
  ▪ Remember: COVID-19 can be asymptomatic

■ Watch your mental health as well
  ▪ Social distancing can be lonely
  ▪ Make time to Skype/Zoom with friends, play games, and distract yourself with hobbies
  ▪ There is always someone who wants to talk with you, no matter what it’s about

■ Don’t stress out about courses
  ▪ We’re all wading through this experiment together
  ▪ It’s fine to retune your expectations – you’ll be fine in the long run
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Using Zoom for 213/613

- Lecture discussions, recitations, OH through Zoom

- **Recommended: Download the Zoom app**
  - Quick install for all platforms (Linux build a little wonky...)
  - Log in using “Sign in with SSO” – goes through CMU login

- **Go to our Zoom hub**
  - [https://piazza.com/class/k4x5uvxc2mnit?cid=1983](https://piazza.com/class/k4x5uvxc2mnit?cid=1983)
  - All Zoom links will be posted here
Lectures

■ We are transitioning to flipped lectures
  ▪ You are responsible for watching videos before class starts
  ▪ We will have a (shorter) discussion during class time

■ Videos/slides will be posted 24 hours before class

■ In class
  ▪ Start with a short summary of key points from lecture
  ▪ One activity to do in breakout rooms
  ▪ Take the quiz
  ▪ Discuss the quiz
  ▪ Handle any remaining questions (similar to conceptual OH)
Recitations

- **Scheduled at normal times (all times Eastern)**
  - Try to attend your regular recitation session if possible
  - If not, pick any one that’s convenient: we offer recitations as early as 9:30 AM Eastern and as late as 8:00 PM Eastern
  - Will provide a recording by Thursday morning for those with connectivity issues

- **Will work much the same as usual**
  - TAs will lead discussion
  - Will involve frequent interaction with students, so participate!
  - Will try to use breakout rooms for small group activities
Recordings

- Lecture videos will be posted online
- Flipped lecture discussions in class are not recorded
- One recitation will be recorded/posted each week

However, we strongly encourage you to attend live as much as possible

- Recitations and discussions are meant to facilitate you asking questions – can’t ask a recording!
- Helps build and maintain our sense of community with each other
- Will keep you on track
- Reduces everyone’s sense of isolation
Office Hours

- **Lab office hours**
  - YOU need to add your Zoom link to the description on the office hours queue
  - TA will connect to you when your turn is up
  - Details: [https://piazza.com/class/k4x5uvxc2mni?cid=1984](https://piazza.com/class/k4x5uvxc2mni?cid=1984)
  - Video of what to do: [https://youtu.be/kgMC4grHp10](https://youtu.be/kgMC4grHp10)

- **Conceptual/faculty OH**
  - Zoom links will be posted online
  - Public discussions that anyone can drop in on
  - For private discussions with faculty
    - Contact us on Piazza or with a private chat message during OH
    - We will work out a time and set up a private Zoom meeting
Assessments

- **Malloc lab**
  - We want to ensure that you have enough time for the main assignment
  - Malloc traces are now for extra credit
  - Other malloc deadlines remain the same
  - Malloc bootcamp: this Thursday

- **Exams**
  - Will be administered online
  - Still working out the logistics – more details forthcoming
  - Also still working out makeup/regrade logistics – sit tight, please

- **In-class quizzes**
  - New quizzes do not count for credit – only for discussion now
Summary

Take care of yourself!

- All classes remote for the rest of the semester
- 213/613 lectures are now flipped
  - Videos released 24 hours before class
  - You MUST watch before class time
  - During class: summary, discussion, quiz, questions
- 213/613 recitations as usual, but online
- OH will be done online – require your cooperation
- Malloc traces are now for extra credit
- Fill out feedback form on Piazza, please!