

Welcome to 15-113!

15-113 – Monday 1/12

Who am I?

- Mike Taylor, Assistant Teaching Prof, CSD (mdtaylor@andrew.cmu.edu)
- Been teaching 15-112 since forever (Fall 2018)
- Came to CMU as a Robotics grad student in 2010, never left
- I have an axolotl named [Kimchee](#)
- I like collecting old stuff, making things with my hands, and reading about weird animals



The Student Dilemma of 2025 and Beyond

- AI is advancing extremely rapidly and is the focus of so much industry and research
- Employers demand AI expertise, but you can't responsibly create production-ready code with AI alone. You still have to master fundamental concepts and problem-solving skills
- Improperly using AI in your fundamental courses will *obliterate* your ability to learn, so where does AI fit into your education?

The Student Dilemma of 2025 and Beyond

- Plus, the job market sure feels like an absolute wasteland...
- To stand out, you need:
 - Fundamental knowledge and well-honed problem-solving skills
 - Experience with incorporating AI into your workflow efficiently and responsibly
 - Interesting projects and experiences

15-113 is meant to be...

- ...a playground for exploring AI in a low-risk setting
- ...a collective effort to discover best practices for AI use
- ...an opportunity to build open-ended projects that set you apart
- ...a place to share experiences from your peers, other faculty, and recent graduates in industry
- ...a way to directly prepare you for your future career opportunities

What you can expect to gain

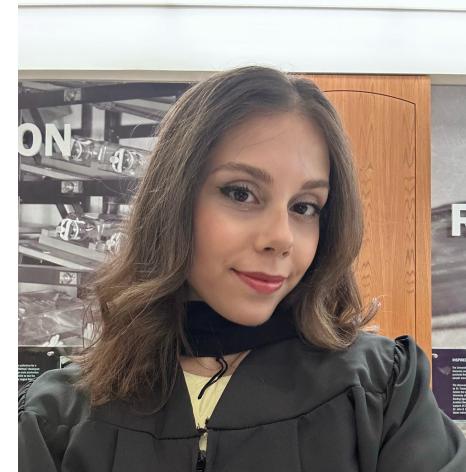
By the end of the course, you should have:

- The ability to effectively combine your problem-solving and programming skills with current-generation AI tools
- Strategies for rapidly evaluating new tools and tech developments as they emerge
- A well-informed understanding of the impacts of modern generative AI, and a personal model for what responsible use means to you
- A web-based portfolio of work that you can add to throughout your career

Meet our TAs!



Taha
(tshakeel)



Nazanin
(nghazi)



Michelle
(mzj)



Alex
(alexche3)

A giant caution for your other classes!

- You **MUST** learn the fundamentals. You **MUST** learn to effectively problem-solve without AI. Industry leaders from Microsoft, Google, and beyond are *begging* you.
- I've watched AI overuse ruin hundreds of students in 15-112, and 15-122 has gathered reliable data that correlates each improper use of AI on assignments with lower exam grades
- Follow every course's AI policy, please, for your own good. These policies are never meant to be arbitrary.

Back to 113: This is a new course!

- Almost all plans are subject to change
- We're very open to feedback! Tell us what you want to learn and we'll do our best to make it happen
- Like what you see? Peer pressure invite your friends to join in! We have some space left, and they only need 15-112-level experience.

Breakout: Talk with your neighbors

- First them their name and why they're taking the course. Fill this out to let us know! <https://bit.ly/3LaEae1>



Take a moment to really stare this down



Course Website:

<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~113/>

Take note of:

- Ed and Office Hours
- Grade distribution
- Schedule
- Academic Integrity

Be aware of HW1 and Project1!

(These will be linked in the schedule shortly after lecture)

Discussion

Break up into small (4-6 person) groups and discuss the following questions. Be ready to report back!

1. What is “vibe coding?” If someone says they vibe coded something, how do you interpret that, and how do you feel about what they made?
2. Without additional context, “AI” is a *very* broad term. We should try to find a definition for what it means in the context of this class. What should it include or not include?