

# Project 1 Debrief

15-113 – Monday 2/2

# 20-25 minutes: Talk with your neighbors

- Break into groups of 4-6 people
- Take turns briefly showing your website
- Discuss which models you used, any difficult parts, anything that seemed particularly effective
- Take notes! We'll ask people to report back briefly



# We'll (anonymously) share these results

- Fill this out! <https://bit.ly/4tduVKY>



# A few very cool portfolios

We tried to showcase a broad range of designs, so please don't feel bad if you're not featured here

- <https://rionkuri22.github.io/>
- <https://koljahribar.github.io/>
- <https://rachaelchung.github.io/>
- <https://ivyflosvv.github.io/>
- <https://sollllz.github.io/github.io/>
- <https://treybrosnan.com/>

# Some observations from the TAs

## Models

- Deepseek and Claude yielded the least problems
- ChatGPT common but typically required more debugging /prompting
- Pro models typically outperformed free-tier
- Several students initially tried several models before settling

# Some observations from the TAs

## Some common strategies

- Provide detailed prompt including all features, plus context like other websites, project requirements, resume, project list, etc
- Create a website with placeholder content and then manually modify
- Start with a basic structure and then iteratively prompt for additional features one at a time
- Ask for AI to generate snippets of code rather than rewriting the whole website each time
- Note: Starting with a website template seemed difficult. AI sometimes had trouble making sense of the structure.

# Some observations from the TAs

## Debugging

- Ask for AI to generate snippets of code rather than rewriting the whole website each time (sometimes avoids introduction of additional bugs)
- Make small adjustments manually to avoid ‘fighting the LLM’
- Pivot the design if AI can’t seem to achieve the desired result
- Try debugging with different models
- Try asking a human for feedback

# Some observations from the TAs

## General suggestions

- Don't be content with the first result. Know when to re-prompt. Having a strong starting point is critical.
- Try different models even if you have a favorite
- Context is important! Additional examples and documents can yield much better results.
- When iterating, watch carefully for unintended changes
- Not all suggestions are useful. Know when to discard changes and re-prompt or change course.

# API intro

Let's try to implement a basic API call. APIs allow your code to get data from the web and/or use useful services.

Some options:

- Stocks / Finance data
- Weather
- Advice / Inspiration / Quotes

Some Python APIs:

<https://github.com/realpython/list-of-python-api-wrappers>

More general APIs by category:

<https://github.com/public-apis/public-apis>

# HW2 debrief + more APIs

15-113 – Wednesday 2/4

# Check this out

<https://www.instagram.com/reels/DUQoZQLjvNp/>

- I haven't read enough yet to know if parts of this were vibe-coded, but...
- ...The rush to push out new products and bleeding-edge tech has been leaving security holes *everywhere*.
- Common levels of tech literacy mean many are not fully informed of the risks they accept when using technology

# Let's start off by discussing HW2 (20min)

- As before, talk with your neighbors about HW2 Crossy Road, and show what you've made
- Try playing someone's game!
- Please do talk to your neighbors and learn something. If you're having trouble introducing yourself to someone, get my attention or the attention of a TA
- Pay attention to prompting strategies and what models/tools people used

# We'll (anonymously) share these results

- Fill this out! <https://bit.ly/46izRV4>



# HW3!

- This one's pretty open-ended
- Put in about 2-3 hours to create something interesting and interactive that uses an API
- This can be the start of a larger project if you wish, or a contained experiment
- It can be a standalone app or python program, or you can make a compelling feature for your website
- It should be more interactive than just “get the weather for Pittsburgh”

# HW3 Demo (30min)

- Inspiration: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DTUJ8-fEzR8/>
- First, can we implement a chatbot that calls us out on unhealthy behaviors?
- Can we print out the conversation in an app window?
- Can we make a little guy?
- Can we give the little guy a good voice?
- This is probably going to be somewhat tough to do in 30 minutes, but let's get as far as we can.

# OpenAI API Demo (30min)

- Inspiration: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DTUJ8-fEzR8/>
- First, can we implement a chatbot that calls us out on unhealthy behaviors?
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