# CODE THE DREAM

**codethedream.org**

## WIN-WIN-WIN

- Students from under-resourced backgrounds train to launch tech careers

- Communities gain access to affordable apps & web technologies that contribute to a more just world

- The tech industry grows in diversity

**Welcome to the March 2021 Student Orientation!**

**Please introduce yourself in the chat:**

1. Name + pronouns
2. Location
3. Favorite video game

# Agenda: 1 hr, 15 min

- *Don't forget to record this orientation!*

Agenda
- Opening (7 min)
- Getting to know each other: small groups (7 min)
- Class logistics & MASCOF (15+ min)
- Class Tools (5 min)
- Questions & Discussion (15 min)
- Success in the class: Small groups (10 min)
- Next Steps (10 min)

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# Introductions: Breakout Rooms

Break out groups of 4-5 people.

(Everyone shares for one minute)
- Name & Pronouns
- Where you live
- Your coding experience
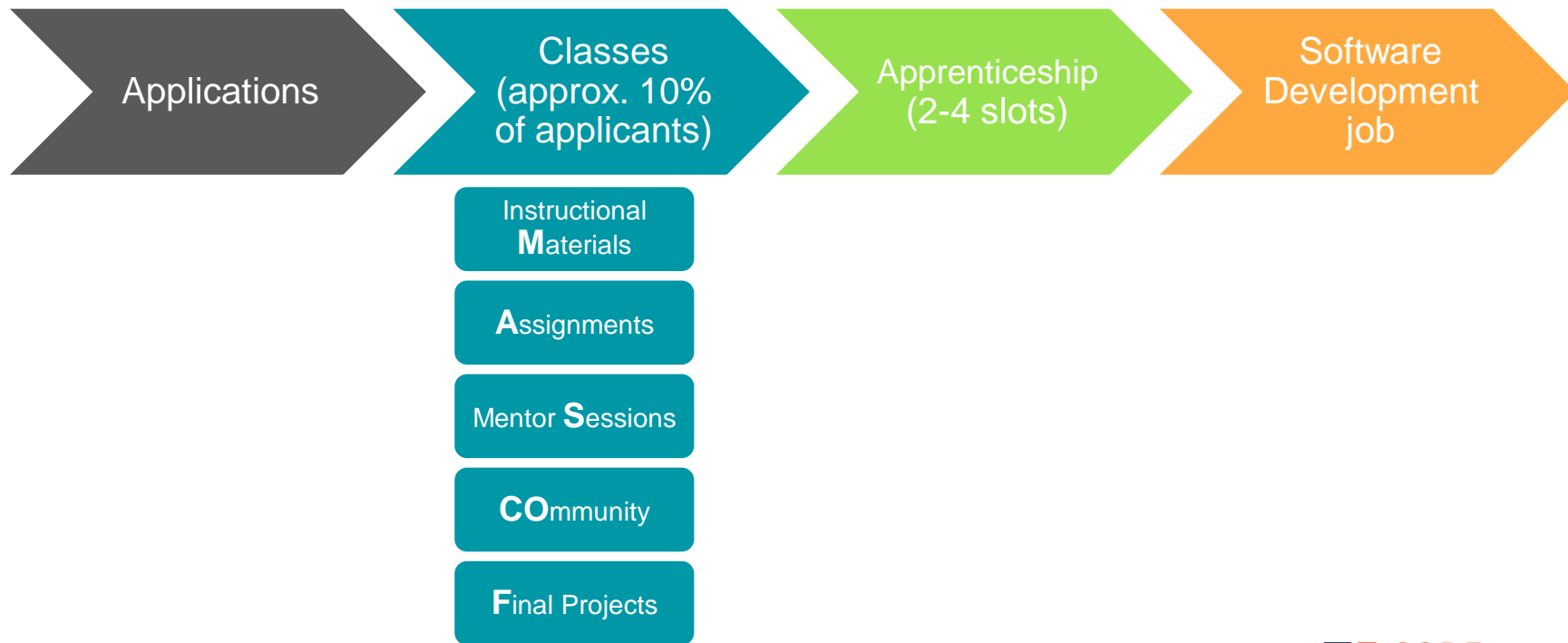- How you got interested in CTD
- Favorite flavor ice cream

**HELLO**

My name is

**A note about Pronouns:**
Our society is used to thinking about gender as binary- only "male" or "female". But there are many different ways that people might identify and relate to gender. Asking someone's preferred pronouns (he/she/they/other) is a way to acknowledge that there is great diversity and variety on the gender spectrum and we will all respect the way someone chooses to identify.

To read more about pronouns: Human Rights Campaign factsheet; mypronouns.org;

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# CTD Student Path

| Applications | Classes (approx. 10% of applicants) | Apprenticeship (2-4 slots) | Software Development job |
|---|---|---|---|

- Instructional **M**aterials
- **A**ssignments
- Mentor **S**essions
- **CO**mmunity
- **F**inal Projects

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# Giving Back

- Most coding bootcamps and other options to learn programming cost at least $10,000-$20,000.

- Code the Dream is completely free and if you are selected for CTD Labs, you receive a monthly stipend while you gain experience.

- 'Pay It Forward' program:  Code the Dream is a nonprofit that relies on donations to make our programs possible. Once you get a job, we will ask you to consider donating a portion of your new salary each month to CTD to help give someone else the same chance.

Pay it forward

www.charmaboutyou.com

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# March 2021 Class Profiles (Koi & Eclipse)

| | |
|---|---|
| **32** | Koi students |
| **44** | Eclipse students |
| **75%** | Immigrants |
| **70%** | People of Color |
| **53%** | Women & non-binary |
| **24** | Countries represented |
| **87%** | Low-income |

## We are changing the face of tech.

Our class includes a diverse group of individuals from across the country.

Sharply contrasting with the tech industry as a whole, the majority of students are people of color, women, and people from low-income communities.

**We want everyone in the CTD community to think about how we can each be inclusive & accessible.**

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# Expectations of Students

- Spend 10-20 hours per week on coding
  - Usually this requires quiet space and intense concentration
- Attend at least 2 mentor sessions per week
- Participate in Slack channel conversations
- Complete weekly assignments on time
  - Lessons build on each other and move quickly
  - When students fall behind, it is very hard to catch up, so it is important to keep up!
- Ask questions if you have them
- Help each other if you can

Moving on to future classes and then later the internship will depend on:

- Participation during the class
- Coding ability
- Dedication & stick-to-it-iveness
- Final projects
- Funding & number of spots available

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# CTD Class Elements: MASCOF!

- **M**: Instructional Materials
- **A:** Assignments
- **S:** Mentor Sessions
- **CO:** Community
- **F:** Final Project

learn.codethedream.org/mascof

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# Instructional Materials

*Video instruction is provided by Treehouse: www.teamtreehouse.com.*

- All lessons are outlined on the learn.codethedream.org website

- Watch videos

- Code alongside

- Take Notes

- Make a list of questions

# Assignments

*You will have coding assignments each week, most of which are submitted through github.*

- This is the most important of the week's tasks, but can't be done without understanding the materials

- You will submit via Github, mostly.

- Check to make sure it runs, but submit it even if your code isn't running, so we know you worked on it.

- Notify us of your submission via Squibby. If you don't do this, we don't know you have worked on your assignment.

- Assignments are due Tuesday by midnight, but submit it even if it's late. Definitely better late than never.

- Be patient with reviewers.

- Session to learn how to submit:

# Mentor Sessions

*Sign up sheets will be sent out on Mondays. The class week officially begins on Wednesday. Zoom Link will go out over Slack channel when session begins.*

- Students expected to attend at least two mentor sessions per week (any 2)

- Complete (or at least start) assignments for the week before the sessions

- Mentor sessions spaced throughout the week, some evenings, some during the week. We will post days and times.

- We are trying to schedule at least one "catch up" session each week.

- Please come to mentor sessions as prepared as you can! But don't skip just because you aren't done.

During the mentor session…

- Review concepts from the assignment that week
- Bring any questions, assist with blockers
- Programming demonstration or pair programming

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# Community

*Make the most of the opportunity to learn alongside others.*

- Post your questions in the Slack channel!

    - It's hard to ask questions.
      WE KNOW.
      Do it anyway.

- Respond to others' questions

- Schedule extra study sessions with classmates

- Help Each Other!!  Students are on different levels. If you have more experience, please help people who are newer.

- Whole class check-ins

slack

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# Final Project

*Perhaps the most critical aspect of determining who moves forward*

- You don't have to think about this until the second half of class, but with each lesson you can start to think about practical applications of what you are learning.

- Rubric

- Proposal

- Last two weeks

- Presentations

- Certificate at the end

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# Grading vs. Understanding

- You don't get grades, and grades are not the goal.

- Everything you do moves you closer to a deeper understanding of programming, and towards a career as a software developer.

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# Class Tools

**TOUR!**

## CLASS WEBSITE:

[learn.codethedream.org/](learn.codethedream.org/)

## SLACK

- #class-announcements
- #class-questions
- Squibby

*You can connect to most of the other tools from the website and Slack.*

- Google Sheets – for mentor session sign ups
- Treehouse: [www.teamtreehouse.com](www.teamtreehouse.com)
- Google Docs – for taking notes
- Code Editor (like VS Code) & Terminal (like Git Bash) for doing the assignments
- Zoom for mentor sessions

- Slack for asking & responding to questions, and for being notified of mentor sessions
- Github for assignments
- Squibby (a Slackbot) for submitting assignments via Slack

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# Questions and Discussion

**Use the hand-raising feature in Zoom
Click on "Participants", then "Raise Hand"
(you may have to click "…" if you don't see that option)**

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# Success in CTD Classes

- Make a plan each week
- Reserve the time
- Do the work: MASCOF
- Be willing to ask questions
- Seek out help
- It gets harder as it goes along; plan for it!
- Stick to it!

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# Advice from past students

- Don't be afraid to poke around & ask questions (no matter how silly you think the questions are)! Cause the mentors are AMAZING!

- Ask the mentors for help! An example: "I came to my mentor during a stressful episode, and she never let up with a calming and reassuring voice. During her attempts, she shared many shortcuts and tips I can utilize moving forward."

- Be patient with yourself, mostly if this is your first time doing this,  like in my case. Force yourself to  try to understand again and again until you get it, persistence is the key. I've been spending around 3 hours or more everyday, a little more on weekends…

- Be proactive and "make time" in your busy schedule to start the lesson each week as soon as it is available so you can be ready for your mentors session, by using that hour to reinforce what you learned that week or bring a list of questions.

- Dedication and discipline is key to learn the content, and you need to be committed if you want to succeed.

- Once I started CTD my weekends were gone! If you want it badly, you will find time for it! There is 24 hours each day!  don't give up, you can do it!

- *Make time for it no matter how busy you think you are!*

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# Breakout Rooms: What is your plan?

- First: Process everything you heard
- Then: Talk through your plan

  - When will you watch the videos?
  - Where in your house is quiet enough for intense concentration?
  - Which days and times of mentor sessions are best for your schedule?
  - How will you take notes?
  - When will you start the assignment?

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# Next Steps

- Set up your Treehouse account when we send the invite
- Set up your Slack account when we send the invite
- Set up your Github account and share your github name with us
- Check out the class website: learn.codethedream.org
- Bear with us! We are experimenting and learning and iterating through this new process- and we are very open to your feedback.

# THANK YOU!

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# Class Contacts

**Admin**

- Lori Khamala, lori@codethedream.org

- Lydia Gilmer, Lydia@codethedream.org

- Alex Rodriguez, alex@codethedream.org

**Lead Instructors**

- Ramiro Rodriguez, Ramiro@codethedream.org (Ruby on Rails)

- Tom Rau, tom@codethedream.org  (React)

- John McGarvey(Ruby on Rails)

- E Thompson (React)

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