

FALL 2025



Debugging Your Brain

Think Lab

Think Team

Agenda

- Announcements
- CS Spotlight: Etienne Vouga
- History+CS Spotlight: Mark Ravina
- Debugging your brain
- Think Faire group meeting and prep

Announcements

-
-

CS Spotlight:

Etienne Vouga

Graphics



History+CS Spotlight:

Mark Ravina

Japanese History

Digital Humanities



Debugging Your Brain

So... about exams

We know that many of you were surprised by your exam performance (in that not-great way)

Remember that the exam measures what you knew at that time. Not what you can do.

Failure is a Tool

It helps you know what you don't know, so you can improve.

It helps you grow your brain.

Consider the growth mindset.

Growth Mindset

- New abilities can be developed through practice.
- Failure is a part of learning.



Exam Autopsy

Metacognition

- Thinking about your thinking
- Metacognition is thinking about what you know and what you don't know
- Helps you plan, monitor, evaluate, and track your learning

Considering Your Processes (Together)

- Why do some students find it hard to admit they need to go to office hours or tutoring?
- Why do students lie or mislead their classmates about how much they studied?
- Why do so many students feel like they are the only ones who are struggling?
- What adjustments will strengthen my weaknesses?
- Do I feel mentally better about myself (more confident)?
- Has what I've been doing been working?
- What methods of retaining information have worked best for me in the past?
- Am I running into any issues or challenges, how exactly can I address them?
- How do I want to feel about my performance and why do I want to feel that way?
- What can I do better to plan out, keep track of, and execute on decisions and plans I've made for myself?
- Am I acknowledging the progress I made and setting realistic expectations of myself?
- How have I dealt with challenges or distractions?

Think Faire – Meet your groups

- Introduce yourselves
- Share with your group your favorite place around campus to eat
- Discuss your assigned topics and brainstorm your presentation

Think Faire Presentation

You'll create a **Pecha Kucha-style presentation: 10 slides × 15 seconds each** to introduce your classmates to what makes your assigned area exciting and important. Choose **one** of the following four focus topics for your presentation:

- A Pioneer and Their Impact
- A Foundational Technology or Algorithm
- A Real-World Application
- A Current Trend or Frontier

Thank you!

See you next week!