

Preparing Computer Science Students ... for the Real World

Peter Kemper
Computer Science



WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

Students at W&M

- Spend 4 yrs of their life with us
- Develop their talents
- Learn valuable skills
- Face a daunting question



How might we help them to see:

- Rich diversity in roles and career paths
- Being active matters



3 Examples

- CS 120: A Career in CS? And which one?
- CS 425: Entrepreneurship in Computer Science
- Organizing students teams at conferences
 - Grace Hopper & Richard Tapia Conferences

CS 120: A Career in CS? And which one?

- Course in collaboration with Career Center
- Topics: Career Paths, Roles, Responsibilities
- Interviews with Professionals (Alumn)

Learning by Example

Some CS students:



- Note: Pictures are taken from public linkedin profiles!

Some more:



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More Opportunities

- CS 425 Entrepreneurship in CS
- Student Teams at Conferences
- Hackathons, Coding competitions
- Internships
- Research experiences for undergrads

Conclusion

- I'd like to see W&M CS students who are
 - Competent
 - Curious
 - Confident
 - Connected

For Computer Science

- “I learn something new every week”
- “I’ll figure it out.”

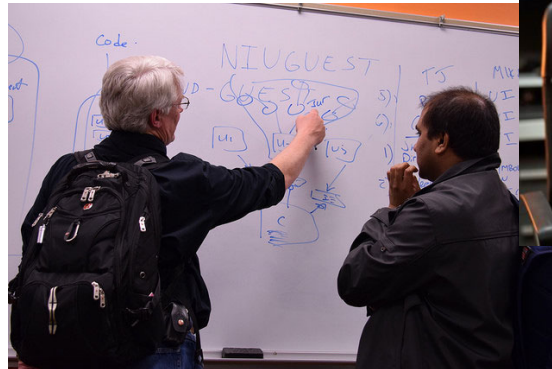
What are common (mis)conceptions?



- Some suggestions?

Software Development is ...

- a team sport
- requires good communication skills
- much more than just coding



Thanks for being here!

- Any questions on your end?
- Be **bold**, just ask!