

Welcome to CS107: Computer Systems Lab!

🌲 Stanford University, Spring 2026

Lab Times: (1) Wed, 1:30 – 2:50 PM, Encina West Room 202
or (2) Thurs, 3:30 – 4:50 PM, Littlefield Center Room 104

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Hi everyone! I'm Ben, your lab leader, and I'm so excited to meet you all and have a fun, beautiful quarter in the Enchanted Troccoli Forest! :) A few things before we launch off:

🍵 **What's Lab For?** Think of Nick's CS107 lecture as a dramatic, stunning YA novel, and **lab as our cozy little book club** where we debrief, you know, all beautiful and intricate plot details—what's going on each week, who's really hiding behind the bitmasks, that sort of tea. Book clubs are great: you get to have your own voice in shaping the narrative, ask burning questions to others or share your own scorching hot takes, e.g. Star Wars sequels > prequels, and have your learning experience be more interactive and personalized than lecture will likely be. In lab, we'll engage with many exercises—from debugging to memory sorcery to code-writing—to get more practice with the material & prepare for assignments!

🌐 **Website:** My lab slides/materials are constellated at stanford.edu/~bbyan/cs107

✅ **Policies:** Lab is evaluated on **both an attendance form I'll enter toward the start of lab**, and **a check-off form that you'll fill out as you work** (you'll receive credit for a sincere effort, as opposed to getting everything right). If you can't make lab any given week (we'll miss you!!), you can attend another one up to twice, just email me and the TA whose lab you plan to attend. For additional accommodations, feel free to reach out! And **please no AI use for coding** (“insult to life itself” – Miyazaki), I promise you'll learn more without it! :)

🌟 **Getting Help:** We have a vivid mosaic of office hours each week in the CoDa basement (mine are generally Mondays, 2 – 4 PM, and Wednesdays, 7- 9 PM with Diego, would love to see you there!). You can find the most up-to-date OH calendar on the course website. There's also the EdStem Forum for asking questions at any time. **I am here to support you in any way I humanly can:** feel free to email me with course/lab/logistics questions! (though for extension requests, please email our wonderful Head TA Julián directly instead)

📄 **My Advice:** I've found 107 to be as much an **arts + crafts course** as a programming one: always have a paper at your side to sketch diagrams, examples, or illustrate your thoughts!

🎉 **Have fun!** CS107 is challenging, no doubt, but **you can do this!!** :) As these ten weeks progress, you'll find yourself writing ever more powerful and incredible programs in C—what once seemed like magic will soon become memory and mastery. Setbacks can happen in CS, and please don't be too discouraged by them! I'll even spend part of our final section sharing my own weird, wacky CS story lol (with 107 as a main villain character)

❤️ **Everyone is welcome. Intellectual joy. Be kind. Be humane. Learn by doing.** ❤️