Human-Centered Design Methods
in
Data Science

CME 197 / EARTH 197
Spring 2020

Logistics
When: M/W, 4:30-5:50p for 9 classes*
*4/8/20 - 5/6/20
How: Via Zoom and other online tools
Prereqs: No classes or programming experience required, just an interest in data science problems and a willingness to try new things

Course topics
The goal of this course is to learn how to apply human-centered design methods to create better data science problems. We will not be doing traditional data science work - the class will focus on giving you the skills to explore problem spaces and formulate/reformulate better problems to solve. The main example throughout the class will be about wildland fires, but you can apply these skills to any complex problem!

Class 1 Introduction to Design
Class 2-3: Stakeholders and Needs
Class 4: Insights and Problem Finding
Class 5-6: Problem Definition and Redefinition
Class 7: Ideation
Class 8-9: Storytelling and Feedback/Critique

Course tools
Zoom
Canvas
Mural
(others, coming soon)

Contact Information
Instructor: Sita Syal
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Note: Are you participating in the Big Earth Hackthon?
Yes: Great! We will be using wildland fires as the main application for many of the skills taught in this class. I hope it will be helpful for you and your team to define a meaningful problem for this event.

No: Also great! You do not need to participate in this hackathon to take this class. The skills are useful for any problem that has people, technology, and data involved.

For more information, see https://bigearthhacks.stanford.edu/