CS241 – Introduction

◉ Goals

1. In any enterprise, this is always the first question to ask/answer.

2. Why are you taking this course?

3. Why not just learn this stuff on your own (see <u>links</u>).

   - accreditation
   - expert guide
   - structure

4. My goals

   - For you to become familiar with standard computing data structures and algorithms
   - For you to gain expertise building GUIs
   - Overall, for you to come away with confidence in your ability to solve most any computing problem you come across.

Computing as a tool

1. Computing (in the service of science, industry, commerce, entertainment, etc) allows us to do things that were impossible not long ago

2. Two quotes I was fond of 10 years ago
   - Of hardware: "If it's delivered, it's obsolete!".
   - "The computing revolution has not properly started yet."

3. Are they still true?
   - Of hardware: pretty much; Moore's "law" is a scary thing
   - In general, maybe it has started...
     - Google
     - Amazon
     - Facebook
     - iPod/iPhone
     - Wikipedia
     - Open Source Software (including Java/NetBeans)