1 Introduction

TA office hours for CS15 will be held in a TA lab (CIT 271), also known as the Fishbowl, every day of the week. A calendar of our 180 TA hours can be found here.

CS15 uses a wait line program called SignMeUp (`signmeup.cs.brown.edu`). To sign up for hours, go the Fishbowl and add your name to the queue on the designated SignMeUp computer (the one closest to the door). A TA will call your name/login outside the Fishbowl when it is your turn. You can check your position in the queue on the SignMeUp website at any time.

2 Outline of policies

1. If you hit a bug, you should have put significant effort into fixing it on your own before seeing a TA. You should be able to show relevant evidence - including design, pseudocode, printlines, or debugger use. **TAs have been instructed to turn away students who can not provide evidence of attempting to solve their problem on their own.**
2. The SignMeUp system has a field for "Question." This should be filled in with a question more specific than, for example, "LiteBrite Question." TAs can only help with one question/bug per visit.
3. To be fair to other students in line, each TA hours visit is capped at 15 minutes.
4. The SignMeUp system allows you to sign up once per hour (even if there is no line).
5. Students are not allowed to work individually in the Fishbowl. If you are not currently being helped by a TA, please wait outside the room.
6. If you do not show up within 5 minutes of your name being called, you will lose your spot in line. There are consequences for repeatedly not showing up for hours you sign up for - remove yourself from the queue to avoid this.
7. TA hours will end at the posted time regardless of the length of the queue left (TAs are students too, with their own lives). TA hours lines grow exponentially longer as the project goes on, so it's a bad idea to expect to get help the last 30 minutes of TA hours before a deadline.
8. Use your "fair share" of TA hours, especially for debugging questions. We want you to get the help you need, which is why we hold more hours than any other course, but keep in mind that struggling through hard bugs on your own is the fastest route to becoming an expert debugger.

3 No Code Line

We will offer a separate "no-code" line during TA hours, starting with the TASafeHouse project, that allows you to get seen faster if you have a question that won't require looking at your code. There will be a separate queue on SignMeUp, please add yourself to this queue and not the normal one for the no-code line. You can't be signed up for

both lines at the same time. This line can be used for conceptual, clarification, or design questions. It should not be used for debugging or code-specific questions.