# Prediction: Week 6

analysis of outdoor Navigation Exercise



Surprise Guest: Dr. Sara Schechner, David P. Wheatland Curator of the Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, Harvard University.



## Your "Marching Orders"

Submit Assignment

#### Navigating Harvard Yard

Points 75

Due Mar 3 by 11:59pm Allowed Attempts 1 Submitting a website url or a file upload Attempts 0

Each of you has been paired with one

nt, as shown on this <u>spreadsheet</u> e



Navidating Harvard Yard

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#### When you are done, to submit this Assignment, here on Canvas, each student should:

- 2. **upload a photograph** of the building nearest to your End point as explained on your worksheet (make sure your oncampus partner shares that photo with the off-campus partner right after you finish working together). If Canvas gives you any trouble with the upload, it is fine to include the photograph in your Prediction Journal.
- 3. in your Prediction Journal, enter 1 paragraph worth of text describing any challenges you and your partner faced WHILE navigating together, and 1 paragraph musing on how those challenges, or other factors, may have affected the uncertainty in your final result. Please submit the URL of your journal as evidence that you've added these paragraphs.

#### This whole assignment should take 1/2 an hour or less of walking around (physically or virtually), and then 30-40 minutes to complete the uploads and Journal entry.

To carry out this assignment, the person "on the ground" in Harvard Yard, will need a **smartphone** or tablet that can run **Google Maps.** That *same* device (or another) can be used for the video chat with your partner. You will **ONLY** use Google maps briefly, three times, to determine GPS lat/long positions. **Please do NOT use Google Maps, or any other computational or mechanical tools, to estimate distances and angles.** If you feel at all tempted to "cheat" by using these devices, then please only let the remote member of your team do the distance and angle estimation. We have clever ways of knowing if you use measuring devices or electronics, so please don't--analyzing the class's collective navigations will be less fun if you do.

Instructions for finding your latitude and longitude using Google Maps

#### To retrieve your latitude & longitude from Google Maps on your smart phone, follow these steps:

- 1. Open Google Maps;
- 2. Tap the symbol (usually a compass arrow) to show your current location;
- 3. Wait a few seconds to let the phone's gps improve accuracy (you'll see the "error circle" minimize);
- 4. Press & hold at your current position to "drop a pin" at your location;
- 5. Swipe up to see the detailed information about your pin--and you will see a screen that looks like this:

#### GenEd 1112 Navigation Exercise: BLUE

You are in a **group** named after the color of the "paper" upon which these instructions are "printed." (You may want to print out this sheet for quick & easy note-taking, but it's not required.)

Start at the **BACK DOOR of Harvard Hall.** For reference, this photo shows the **FRONT** side of Harvard Hall, the BACK Door, your starting point, is on the OTHER side.



Using the instructions in the table below, and NOTHING ELSE, you are going to walk from your starting point to A, to B, to the "End" point.

You can use any cooperation strategies you devise to navigate together as a team, but do NOT use your smartphone, computer, or any other modern measuring devices to "navigate."

When (and only when!) you reach point A, then point B, and finally your End point, you need to record your latitude and longitude in the chart below. To speed things up, stay warm, and increase accuracy, you may want to take screenshots of GPS location information on your phone, and transfer information to the survey when indoors.

At your final End point, after you conclude your pair's video chat, the on-campus partner should take a photograph of whatever Harvard building is nearest your End point, and share that photo with your partner.

# Where you wound up



### The winning team!



Jaida Wilson (on-campus)



Jordan Lee (remote)

# Where you wound up



### The winning team!

Jaida Wilson (on-campus)



Jordan Lee (remote)

### and their Prize...





Not a foot?

# Questions to consider

- 1. Overall accuracy
  - 1.1. What factors effect it?
  - 1.2. How well do people gauge confidence?
- 2. Pair accuracy
  - 2.1. What factors effect it?
  - 2.2. How much does it vary, pair to pair?
- 3. <u>Systematic</u> effects
  - 3.1. What do you notice?
- 4. How would you estimate the accuracy of this kind of "dead reckoning"?
- 5. How do space and time interact in estimating accuracies here?



### 2020: slides; 2021: live "glue" demo









### Students are VERY overconfident, in general





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2020: slides; 2021: live "glue" demo





Grey circles show time since first data entry



























## Discussion

- 1. Overall accuracy
  - 1.1. What factors effect it?
  - 1.2. How well do people gauge confidence?
- 2. Pair accuracy
  - 2.1. What factors effect it?
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- 3. <u>Systematic</u> effects
  - 3.1. What do you notice?
- 4. How would you estimate the accuracy of this kind of "dead reckoning"?
- 5. How do space and time interact in estimating accuracies here?

You can take notes in the "Zoom Breakouts" Google Doc at <u>tinyurl.com/nav-discussion-gened1112</u>

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<u>1. What is Navigation?</u> Short page of text that clearly defines what "navigation" is.



2. Latitude and Longitude Definition and explanation of *latitude* and *longitude*, with two WorldWide Telescope videos that clearly visualize these concepts.



3. Navigation as Prediction

In-depth text that explains the relationship between navigation and prediction, including explaining the concepts of uncertainty, position, direction, speed, and time.



<u>4. The Longituze Prize and GPS</u> Overview of the original Longitude Prize, the clock that won the Prize, and its impact on today.



5. Help, I'm Lost! Introduction to navigational methods, including a 9 minute video narrated by Professor Goodman.



6. Finding Your Way at Sea Clickable flowchart that demonstrates how to find your way if lost at sea. Includes extensive descriptions, expert interviews, and WorldWide Telescope videos.



7. Assessments

Ten multiple choice questions to test your knowledge on the key teaching points of the course.



8. Tools of the Navigator



9. Videos

Main menu page for the fourteen standalone Tools of the Navigator Listing page for the course's 24 videos (note that each of these pages, organized into six categories: math, speed, astronomy & videos is also accessible through links in the course text). angles, timekeeping, direction, and maps.









## Technology takes us There



http://www.rome2rio.com/s/Harvard-University-12-Oxford-Street-Cambridge-MA-02138-USA/Isles-of-Scilly





### Landmarks



HarvardX: SOC1.longx PredictionX: Lost Without Longitude



### Tools of the Navigator













