

# 07 Meet Your Pod

Sunday, January 28, 2024 7:55 PM

## Admin

This American Life #370 Ruining It for the Rest of Us.

Bad team behaviors: The Jerk, The Slacker, The Depressive

The cure: solicit input from everyone.

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/370/ruining-it-for-the-rest-of-us/prologue-0>

Transcript, in case you had trouble understanding the audio:

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/370/transcript>

## Pods

Pods (9 students each) are for formal critiques (Upcycle, Design Preview, Final Project), and informally for discussions during class.

Today, meet your Pod. Exchange contact info, and talk about your upcycle project.

Please join your Pod's Slack Channel.

1. That was fine, I met everybody on my team
2. Communication was a problem
3. My team had missing people
4. I was alone in person
5. I was alone on zoom

## Expectations For Pods

Reasons for putting you in a pod:

1. So that you can attempt create artifacts that are beyond your current skill set. The pods were chosen to spread out expertise amongst the teams. Whether you are learning or teaching a skill, your expertise will increase. In particular, experience in teaching is marketable.
2. To have partners to bounce ideas off of. This makes ideas multiply.
3. To get formal and informal feedback on your work in a low-stakes environment.
4. To interact with students from different backgrounds.

Thus, working together is **STRONGLY EXPECTED**, but not strictly required. You are not required to interact only with your pod, but you are expected to make significant effort to be available to help them.

I hope you will take advantage of the benefits of working in pods and of the opportunity to broaden your network. Strong recommendation: don't work only with your friends. Bad for you professionally.

During formal critiques:

There will be three formal Critiques: Upcycle, Main Design Preview and Main Design Final,

each made up of three critique Sessions (days). One of the graduate students in your pod will be the Pod Manager for each of the Critiques, who will make sure that there is a Facilitator for each Session, and that everybody in the pod presents. Everybody in the pod will act as Facilitator at least once during the semester. You should coordinate these assignments in your Pod Slack channel.