A Ziggy cartoon once showed the image of a person, standing at a podium, starting a talk. The caption read:

Before I start my talk,
I want to say something.

[a message to ponder]
Session Outline

Course themes
• imperative problem solving (think: outline form)
• C programming (close to the machine)
• storage and processing of data
• Linux operating system
• control of robots

Demo

Course Web site
    http://www.cs.grinnell.edu/~walker/courses/161.fa18
• Syllabus
• Course work: labs, projects, supplemental problems
  11 quizzes, 1 hour tests, final exam
• Extra credit options: labs, problems, Thursday extras
• Schedule
Some Preliminaries

Course mechanics
• lab based
  • Before class: read, formulate questions (if any)
  • Class: questions, occasional quiz, then work with partner
  • Before next class: finish lab and/or formulate questions
• check schedule each day!
• labs and projects collaborative
  • this week: work with whomever you are next
  • starting next week: I assign partners, changed each week
• tests and supplemental problems individual
• details will enfold through next few days;
  read syllabus for now
More Preliminaries

Start getting to know each other a little (20 seconds/person)
- name
- home town
- why 161?
- hopes for course
- math background
  - sign seen recently:
    - there's a fine line
      between a numerator and a denominator
  - no specific math background required for CSC 161
  - knowing your background helps me plan examples

Clickers
- slides posted for on-campus use after class
- link on Syllabus and References pages
Clicker Question 1 for practice:

What did you have for breakfast?

A. Eggs-to-order!
B. Straight up carbs.
C. A hot beverage.
D. None of the above.
E. What is breakfast?
What computer, if any, do you expect to use as your primary machine for your work this semester?

A. My Mac OS X laptop or desktop (in my room).
B. A college owned Mac.
C. My Windows-based laptop or desktop (in my room).
D. A college owned Windows-based machine.
E. Other
Within a Mac OS X machine or a Windows-based computer, have you opened a Terminal window and typed commands?

A. Yes, a lot.
B. Yes, I tried once or twice, but not much.
C. No, never tried it
D. What’s a Terminal window?
And Still More preliminaries

Course materials
- Extensive (121,000+ lines of online materials in 720+ files)
- Homework for this evening:
  - Look at syllabus
  - Read materials for today and tomorrow
  - Finish workstation setup
  - Make substantial headway on Linux basics lab
  - Come Monday with Questions!!!
- Discussion of various pieces of the course through the week
- Textbooks?
  - none required
  - K.N. King: targets those getting started
  - Kernighan and Ritchie: targets experienced audience
Let's get Started!!!

Plan

Work in pairs—your choice this week!
(I'll assign partners after this week—more later)

Lab activities in 2 parts

1. Each partner should log on and do the Workstation Setup
   • Log on (with your college-wide password)
   • Check you can open a terminal window
   • Set color preferences for terminal window
     (My preference is white on black, but do what you want)

2. Make substantial start on the Linux basics lab
   • Do lab in parallel with reading
   • Read lab task, read about it, try it out
   • Focus on terminal commands;
   • Skim matters of system file structures and permissions
   • Must do set up of .bashrc, directory structure
   • For weekend: get through substantial part of Linux basics