# Professional Achievement Points Project - MIS3501

# Make Eliza Smarter

## Read this first

This project is being offered to MIS3501 students who are looking to earn additional MIS professional achievement points. This project is not extra credit. Participation in the project will not improve or reduce your grade in MIS3501. This project is optional. You don’t need to do this project if you don’t want to. The incentive for doing this project is MIS professional achievement points, and the joy of learning/applying a new skill: programming.

If you take advantage of this opportunity you may earn 0, 25, or 50 portfolio points based on my evaluation of your work.

## The project

In class I have shown students in MIS3501 the code to a program called “A little Eliza demo”. The original / full / real Eliza program is the stuff of legend – and you can read about it here: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ELIZA>

Here is a link to the “Eliza demo” I shared with the class: <http://www.mis3501.xyz/shafer/eliza> (It is much, much, much more rudimentary than the real thing was.)

For this project, I am asking you to write your own version of Eliza, *from scratch*. The version of Eliza that you write should be more convincing that mine is. That is, interacting with it should produce more varied and/or more “human like” responses than my original code.

Your code must also use a working database connection in some meaningful way.

For this project, you ***may*** want to change the paradigms of the Eliza dialogue. That is, the original Eliza was meant to emulate the dialog between a patient and psychiatrist. You ***may*** want to change that context to something else. The dialogue could be between a customer and a salesperson, or a customer and bartender, etc. Whether you change the context or not, you will want to improve on the quality of dialogue.

**(Continued)**

## Evaluation and Warnings

Please note the following points:

1. I will not accept submissions from teams. You are not to share your code with another student. If I find you have done this, then both students will receive 0 portfolio points and you will have both wasted your time.
2. While you may use my code as a reference, you are not to copy it. Remember that you are to write an original solution to the problem from scratch. If I find that you have copied my original code, then you will receive 0 points for your work, and you will have wasted your time.
3. You are not to repurpose code from other sources (i.e. GitHub, SourceForge, etc. etc.) You are to write an original solution to the problem from scratch. If I find that you have copied code from another source, then you will receive 0 points for your work, and you will have wasted your time.

The above three points should be abundantly clear. Disregard for any or all of the three points above may, at my discretion, result in further disciplinary action above and beyond the 0 point penalty. (For example, escalation to the Undergraduate Disciplinary Committee and remarks on your academic record.)

When your solution is complete, email me the working URL to your Eliza application, deployed on the www.mis3501.xyz server. Also include a short description (no more than a few sentences) about how you made Eliza “smarter” and how you used the database connection. The subject line of the email should be simply “ELIZA”.

I will evaluate the submissions, and award 0, 25, or 50 portfolio points based on the quality of your work.

Your submission is due by the end of the day, April 28th, 2017.