I’d like to start by thanking Bernie Durfee for inviting me to talk with you about open source software and the communities that enable it. I also want to thank Lambda School for hosting me and for their interest and work in open source software.

Despite the title, I don’t think I’ll be able to cover “everything” about open source, but I hope to give you an introduction that can help you understand open source software, development, adoption and communities.

Each topic I touch on could actually be an entire presentation, so I’ve tried to keep things at a high level, but will be happy to follow up if you have questions.

Finally, I am not a lawyer and the OSI is not a legal services organization. We cannot provide legal advice and nothing in this presentation should be considered legal advice. If you have a question about your project, please seek out a qualified attorney in your jurisdiction.
The Success of Open Source Software

I’d like to start with a snapshot of the open source software community today. Things are quite different from just a few years ago.
Back in 2001, then CEO of Microsoft, Steve Balmer called Linux a cancer, and warned that open source licenses are a virus that would infect a company's software.

Today, Microsoft “Loves Linux, and is one of the largest open source contributors.”