Project $n^2$

from Wikipedia:

Metcalfe's law states that the value of a network equals approximately the square of the number of users of the system ($n^2$). Since a user cannot connect to itself, the actual calculation is the number of diagonals and sides in an n-gon:

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \right\rfloor$$

First formulated by Robert Metcalfe in regard to Ethernet, Metcalfe's law explains many of the network effects of communication technologies and networks such as the Internet and World Wide Web.

Goal: Get Support from Your Network

Challenge:

For this project, you need to develop a robust point of view about what you want to get out of CIA. Using the design thinking methodology, try to understand yourself as the “user” of this course. Articulate your point of view (POV) about why you want to be part of the class. Once you have your point of view, test and refine it by getting some feedback from people you know.

Then identify your personal network and diagram it considering both the quantity of ties as well as the strength and quality of each tie. Here’s a sample network diagram:
Spend some time thinking about how you might use this network to help you get the most out of this course. What would you ask them to help you with? Brainstorming? Doing stuff? Advice?

Here’s the action part: ask your network for support for you throughout the term as you try to understand how to create infectious action. Ask each person in the network to provide you with a symbol - a letter, a note, whatever - of support.

**Come back to class on April 13 with the following:**

1) A clear point of view about why you want to be in the class
2) Some tangible expression of what your personal network looks like
3) Insights into what takes to create infectious action
4) The number letters of support you generated, from where, and why.

This assignment must be completed individually, but definitely use your CIA team for support.

Try not to do anything illegal.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Familiarize yourself with the design process:
  1. Understand
  2. Observe
  3. Visualize, Predict, Build
  4. Test & Iterate
  5. Implement
- Refine and test your personal Point of View about what you want out of CIA
- Develop a strategy to use you network to your best advantage
- Build a base of support to help you get the most out of CIA
- Begin to generate insights about what it takes to create infectious action

Have fun!