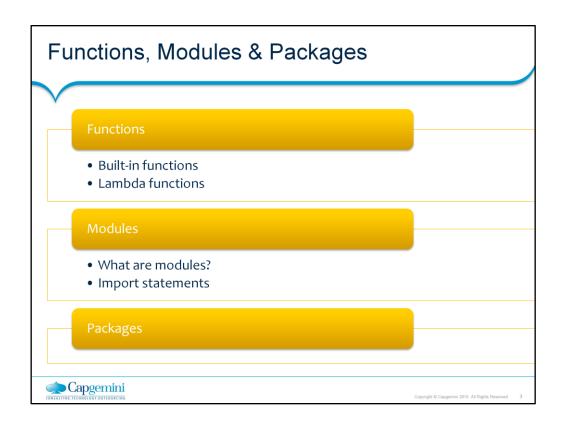


Instructor Notes:

■ After completing this lesson, you will learn about: ■ Functions ■ Modules ■ Packages



Instructor Notes:

Introduction to Functions

- A Function is a block of organized, reusable code that is used to perform a single, related action
- Provides better modularity for the application
- Provides high degree of code reusing
- Call by value for primitive data types
- Call by reference for derived data types
 - Q: Why?
 - A: Reference Semantics



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A function is one that returns a value. The opposite of a fruitful function is void function — one that is not executed for its resulting value, but is executed because it does something useful. (Languages like Java, C#, C and C++ use the term "void function", other languages like Pascal call it a procedure.) Even though void functions are not executed for their resulting value, Python always wants to return something. So if the programmer doesn't arrange to return a value, Python will automatically return the value None.

Instructor Notes:

Functions..contd

- Function blocks begins with **def** keyword, followed by the name of the function and parentheses ()
- Input parameter is placed within these parentheses and parameter can be defined inside these parentheses
- The first statement of a function can be an optional statement the documentation string of the function or docstring
- Code block within every function starts with a colon (:) and is indented
- The statement return [expression] exits a function, optionally passing back an expression to the caller
- A return statement with no arguments is the same as return None



Instructor Notes:

Functions..contd

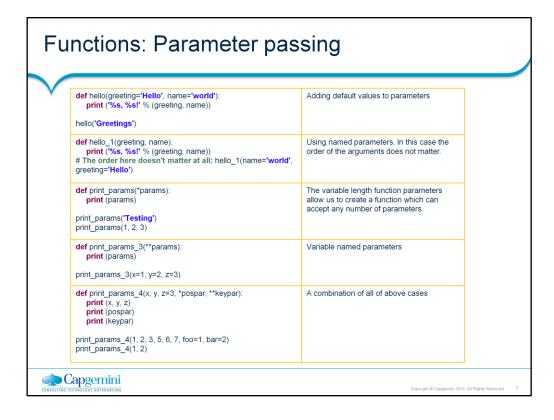
The syntax for function definition is

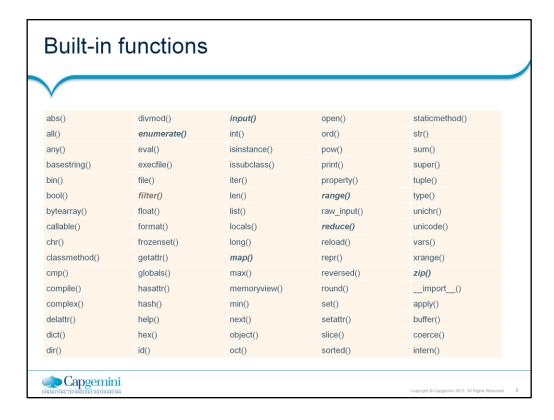
```
def NAME( PARAMETERS ):
"""Docstring"""
STATEMENTS
[return]
```

- A function must be defined before its first use
- The return statement is used to return a value from function.
- If a function does not have return statement, it is considered as a Procedure
- If a function has to return multiple values, tuples are preferred
- Sample function call

name = my_func(arg1, arg2, arg='Default')







Instructor Notes:

Lambda functions

- Unnamed functions
- Mechanism to handle function objects
- To write inline simple functions
- Generally used along with maps, filters on lists, sets etc.
- Not as powerful as in C++11, Haskell etc. e.g. no looping etc.
- Example: lambda x,y : x+y to add two values



Instructor Notes:

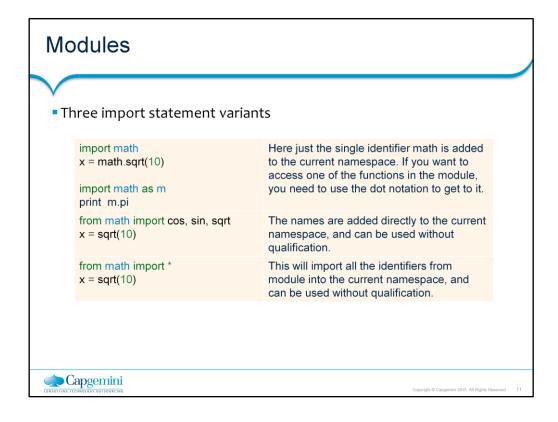
Modules

- A module is a file containing Python definitions and statements intended for use in other Python programs.
- It is just like any other python program file with extension .py
- Use the "import <module>" statement to make the definitions in <module> available for use in current program.
- A new file appears in this case \path\<module>.pyc. The file with the .pyc extension is a compiled Python file for fast loading.
- Python will look for modules in its system path. So either put the modules in the right place or tell python where to look!

import sys

sys.path.append('c:/python')





Instructor Notes:

Packages

- Packages are used to organize modules. While a module is stored in a file with the file name extension .py, a package is a directory.
- To make Python treat it as a package, the folder must contain a file (module) named init .py

