

My goal was to learn enough about my gaps to figure out how to navigate in the future, using Python to stitch together AI-solutions for my domain, telecommunications. Specifically, I wanted to understand the complexities of the language to quickly put together an E2E system which would take data from a source, run some analyses then provide an inference at the edge (closer to the user than to the cloud). I have learnt that I have a moon-shot and that I will have to partner with a Python Expert, not an AI-agent, to jointly formulate an implementation, where I will formulate the pseudocode / logic, and the partner will help execute/ write the code test etc. I will never be a world-class programmer, nor is it my intention. My expectation was unfounded and this class has taught me much humility for those who teach programming.

Programming is hard. It takes a lot of time and patience. The syntax for Python while understandable with some effort, is by no means trivial. What I learnt was that I did not know much and if I wanted to be anywhere close to a A+ programmer that I would need many many many years of direct exposure to programming, even with an AI-agent. I also learnt that it is very hard to impart such a complex concepts to a student body about whom we may not know all that much.

I wish we took some time, maybe 15min at the beginning of the class to formally get to know each other. Why we are taking the class, what we expect out of it and how we can make it a collaborative effort. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Sunday sessions and as such found it a little challenging to 'debug my deficiencies' on my own.

I also learnt that there is no short-cuts to programming, as with life. You are indeed correct when you say, 'what you put in is what you get out'. However, I personally found the structure in the final two sessions a little rushed and quite deep on the concepts. Therefore, I have a suggestion for the future, to evaluate what modules are essential in a beginners Python-100 for foundational awareness.

It is my impression that too many topics have been put into an eight week session which tried to integrate the theory with application. While the strategy and purpose were noble, in my view, the execution lacked the outcome for my case, to grasp the essence of each lecture (wrt the last two, following test\_cases).

Lessons Learnt for Python-100

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Having said that, I feel quite comfortable that I have the alphabets of Python at my fingertips, I can write a few sentences that are grammatically correct but lacks essence or awareness, perhaps I can write a few paragraphs, elementary level with the help of an AI-agent to edit and correct, I can follow logic, synthesize test-cases and manipulate I/O. These are all new to me at this level of abstraction in Python and I would not have learnt any of this without attending the lectures and going over the video/ reading material.

I simply did not have enough time in the day to do justice to the hard work put in to create the contents. I will now backup the material and review the details at my own pace, likely with an application. Thank you for a noble effort.